

Stephens (William) K

THE
CASTLE-BUILDERS;
OR, THE
HISTORY
OF
WILLIAM STEPHENS,
OF THE
Isle of Wight, Esq; lately deceased.
A
POLITICAL NOVEL,
Never before published in any *Language.*

*In every Work, regard the Writer's End;
Since None can compass more than they intend.*

POPE's Essay on Crit.

THE SECOND EDITION, with large ADDITIONS.

L O N D O N:

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MDCCLIX.

T O

Mrs. SUSANNAH,

A N D

Mrs. ANN STEPHENS.

LADIES,

IT falling to my Share to burn
the Papers of your late Uncle's
Family, my Curiosity led me, be-
fore I committed them to the Flames,
to look into the Causes of their De-
cay and Ruin; and, finding several
striking Circumstances, I minuted
such as seemed to be most worthy
of Notice; as well from the earliest
Account of them, before that Estate
was

iv DEDICATION.

was hastily got by your great Grandfather, as to the Time of its being spent, and after, to the total Subversion of the Family.

And, upon Perusal of the Facts which were collected, I found Nothing so uncommon or extraordinary in the Thread of that Life, which was cut short before the Business of *Heaping* was accomplished, as to have made it worth while to leave any Memoirs relating to him, or to those from whom he descended, though They might have better deserved it.

But what mostly engaged my Attention, was the uncommon Behaviour of his Grandson, who appears to have been determined to go thro' Life

DEDICATION. v

Life in one direct Line; to which Resolution he adhered, perhaps beyond any Example of the Age in which he lived; insomuch that, if the next should refine upon this, as this has done upon the last, it will be no more believed, in the Country to which his Birth was an Honour, that such a Man ever existed, than it is elsewhere, that *Jesus Christ* was the Son of God.

It is not meant so to extol his Talents, as to compare them with those supposed to excel, whether in Learning, Wisdom or Valour: However, tho' he seems to have aimed at the Negative Character, of doing no Wrong; and tho' he stoop'd not for Honours at Court, nor Riches, in the Church or the Field, at the Bar or *Royal-Exchange*;
yet

vi DEDICATION.

yet it does not appear, that he was either a Knave or a Fool. But, it is too arduous a Task for me to write in Defence of a Person's Conduct, who spent his Estate in doing what he did really and truly believe was right.

What can be offer'd in behalf of the unpardonable Sin of Poverty in the Age of *Plutus*? And when of six Politicians (in their great Wisdom and Care, and on the most mature Deliberation of the State of their Country, and a thorough Scanning of the Actions of Ministers) five shall be exclaiming against that infernal Race, that was extirpated before the Nation was plunged over Head and Ears? Now what, in the Name of Nonsense, have the Omis-

sions,

DEDICATION. vii

sions, of any Set of Men, to do with those who were murdered an Hundred Years ago? But in Justification of that Murder, and all its hopeful Consequences, it is said, if it had not been committed, the Regicide himself would have been executed; which is undoubtedly convincing, if not admitting the Argument.

But here lies the Affair; the Five are Slaves to —— What? The present Power — No Matter in whose Hands it lies. They shall vote for Placemen, and wonder at the Sums which They vote; and if one of these be told, that he is inconsistent, in saying one Thing and doing another; or asked why he himself voted for one whom he knew to be biassed? he frankly confesses that to be his
own

viii DEDICATION.

own Case indeed; and asks if you do not think him a Fool that does not take Care of himself.—To be sure—He has a Family. And if you happen to hit a Blot of his Patron; Sir, his Lordship is my Friend—and General *Hopson* had his Advocates, when I foretold the Honour and Profit of the last Expedition of all, where he commanded, and where he died like himself.

And yet this Sort of Admiration happens every Day, among those whose Interest is to give Way to Nothing; and in Excuse for themselves and their Friends, they plead the Words of *St. Paul*; *But if any provide not for his own, and especially for those of his own House, he hath denied the Faith, and is worse than*

DEDICATION. ix

than an Infidel. Let then these Murmurers seriously consider too, as a learned Divine expresses himself, to this or the like Effect; namely, *He that has Regard only to his own, is little better than an Infidel*, and perhaps the Wonder may cease; for it may justly be questioned, whether the Apostle meant that any should provide for his own, at the Expence of Others.

However, Extremes are always wrong; and as it is sufficient, that one Man does the Business of One; it must be granted, that the Gentleman who did more, must have been wrong; as appears by the Event, which is the common, tho' sometimes unfair, Way of judging. But yet, as his own Family and his very

b

Creditors

x DEDICATION.

Creditors, a malicious One excepted, honoured his Virtues, from a Sense that his Debts exceeded his Effects in no very large Sum; and since they censured him not, as one of dishonourable Intentions, who besides should presume to blame his Conduct? Surely, not those in the Country which he served at the Expence of his Estate, much less have a Set of Men, to whom he more immediately owed his Ruin, a Right to reproach that Name, which it would better become them to vindicate.

He met with better Treatment in *Scotland* and elsewhere; for notwithstanding he stretched the Credit of the *York-Buildings* Company, to such a Length as there are few Instances of, yet the People lamented the

DEDICATION. xi

the Loss of him : And, recovering himself, after he had made a Slip in *Georgia*, he was restored to Favour by a People, who would otherwise have very justly hated him, for abusing that Confidence which they had repos'd in him.

'Tis Pity, methinks, but those in this Country, in whom as much Confidence has been placed, with greater Power, had as much Resolution for reasoning on Inexpediences: But—in Spite of the Tyrant-passions and Custom, we are said to be free Agents, and some had rather live GREAT, than die so.

It is not my Intention, however, to delineate a perfect Man; though Repentance, in some Sense, comes

xii DEDICATION.

next to Infallibility; but yet, as his shining Qualifications were not so well remembered as his Failings, it may be justly said, to those for whom he sacrificed his Interest, as the *Prussian* Officer did of his King, in a Country not more famed for Politeness than Wisdom; when some were treating the Loss of a Victory of his, with more Wit than good Breeding; says he, “The King of *Prussia* is but a Man; but you have not such another.” And therefore to rescue Mr. *Stephens*’s Name is but an Act of Justice due to his Memory; tho’ the throwing together the Facts comprised in the following Sheets may likewise be of Use to the Orphans his Descendants, as it may hereafter assist them in Defence of their innocent

DEDICATION. xiii

nocent Poverty, when attacked by insolent Riches.

Not being skilled in Chronology myself, or believing you so distemper'd with Family pride, as to derive Virtue from Pedigree, I have gone no farther back, than the Time which the Papers I found will warrant; for, notwithstanding the late *Mr. Greene* of the *Heralds Office* could demonstrate by their Arms, that they were a Family in *Cornwall*, long before they came into *Hampshire*; yet it being foreign both to my Business and Design, to adjust that important Affair, I must beg leave to refer those to Heraldry, whose Curiosity may lead them either to know more, or to dispute so much of their Antiquity.

These

xiv DEDICATION.

These being my Motives for publishing this History, though without Order, Style, Language, or Invention to recommend it, I yet hope it will not be unintelligible nor unentertaining to you; or unacceptable to *Some* on account of its Bulk.

If I had thought it so well worth the Attention of the Publick as to have made a Penny of it, I should have endeavoured at it for the Sake of the distressed Infants, the poor Remnant of the Family; to whose Use the Profits should have been applied: But herein am I disappointed, being so compleatly undone, by that infernal Spirit which may ruin the Nation, that I live only whilst Creditors, *not properly mine*, are pleased to forbear; and therefore
may

DEDICATION. xv

may venture to promise never more
to attempt to do good in this Life;
tho' I sincerely am, and shall always
remain,

Your most

Affectionate Friend,

and Humble Servant,

The AUTHOR.

DEDICATION

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C O N T E N T S.

C H A P. I.

*SOME Account of Mr. Stephens's Predecessors,
and how the Estate was got.* pag. 1

C H A P. II.

*His Birth, Education, and Conduct, until the Estate
was spent* 18

C H A P. III.

*Was abandoned by the Tories, and received by Whigs,
without Regard to Party,* 49

C H A P. IV.

*His Passage to, Employment in, and return from
Scotland,* 60

C H A P. V.

Distressed in England, he goes a Voyage to America,

C H A P. VI.

*Takes a final Leave of his Native Country; departs
a second Time for America; and lives in Penury
sixteen Years in Georgia, where he died,* 98

C H A P. VII.

His Religion and Superstition, 129
Politics and Companions, 145
Prejudice and Prophecy, 164
Character and Family. 185

A P P E N D I X.

*The Ir-reviewable Castle Builders to the Reviewer:
Or, an Answer to the Critical Review on that Au-
thor, published in June 1759,* 201
*Further Reasons for writing the Life of Mr.
Stephens,* 209

CONTENTS.

CHAP. II.

Mr. Stephens's supposed Conduct as a Patriot Minister; and some of the Advantages to be expected from the present War, 211

CHAP. III.

Corruption more dreadful than Invasion, Fire, or Sword, 230

Modern Patriotism, and the Corruption of the Times, and the Corruption of the Times, 236

And Integrity, 238

Every one's Notion of Greatness not the same, 240

That of a Patriot who will run no Hazard to save his Country, 248

Some Ministers better than Others, 251

The VISION of a CHILD,

Left in a Wood to be fed by the Ravens [see P. 198.]

Dedication to Three Great Men, 261

The Child being lost is terrified, 265

His hopeless Condition and Meditations, 267

Fancies himself in a great City, 269

From whence he strolls into the Country, where he

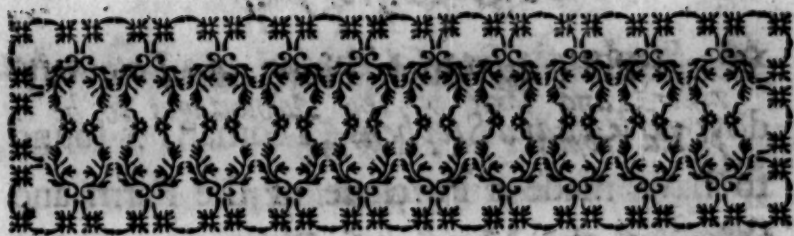
meets with an elderly Lady, who tells him a long

Story of her Family and Kindred, 278

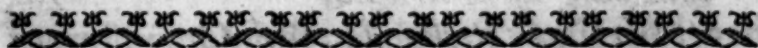
He was found and conducted home by an Indian, 315

ERRATA.

Folio 102, L. 1, for *having* read *had*. F. 150, L. 6, read *Contingences*.
F. 164, L. 22, for *to* read *at*. F. 167, L. 3, read *Genusses*. F. 186,
L. 12, for *being*, read *was*. F. 295, for *the* read *be*.

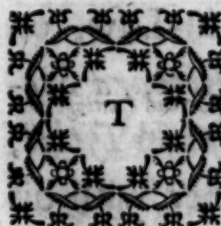


T H E
H I S T O R Y
O F
WILLIAM STEPHENS, Esq;



C H A P. I.

*Some Account of his Predecessors, and how
the Estate was got.*

HE Family from whence Mr. Stephens descended, does not appear, from any Evidences they have taken Care to preserve, to be very antient; as we cannot trace them with any Certainty, further back, than the

A

Year

Year 1588; at which Time, *Awdrey*, Widow of *Richard Stephens*, Yeoman, is found to have made a Purchase of the Farm and Scite of the Manor of *Barneton*, in the Parish of *Milton*, and County of *Southampton*, from *Edward Lewyn*, of *Winckton*, in the Parish of *Christ-Church*, from whence she was stiled of *Barneton*. The Family, however, were long before possessed of Lands and Wealth, in the Neighbourhood of *Lyntington* and *Christ-Church*, particularly of *Cock-Crouch*, then a considerable Farm, near the said Manor. And on a Marriage betwixt *Richard*, the Grandson of *Awdrey*, whom her Son *Richard* had by *Elizabeth* his Wife, Daughter of *Robert Doleman* of *Norris*, in the Parish of *Whippingham*, and Isle of *Wight*, that Farm was settled on *Richard Stephens*, after the Death of *Joan Doleman*, his Mother-in-Law, on Condition that the Father of *Richard Stephens* conveyed to him his *Rectory* and *Tythes*, in the Parish of *Milton*; together with his Lands in *Barneton* and several Tenements; which took Place in the Year 1633, and
first

first gave the Family of *Stephens* a Footing in the Isle of *Wight*.

Richard had three more Sons by his Wife *Elizabeth*; *William*, who was entered of the *Middle Temple*, and *Henry*, who was brought up a Merchant. Both these Brothers arrived at some Eminence in their respective Pursuits; yet such was the Reverse of their Fortunes and Dispositions, that the one saw himself stripped of the fairest Fruits of his Industry by that Party, under which the other, in the fullest Security, and with amazing Rapidity, was laying a Foundation for very ample Possessions; for he died possessed of upwards of 1200*l.* *per Ann.* in the Forty-first Year of his Age; though he had lived in Splendor. *David*, the Youngest, lived with his eldest Brother *Richard*, and took the Charge and Management of the Estate for him.

The first Thing remarkable of *William*, whom we mentioned to have acquired, and left behind him such an Estate in a very few Years; and whom, in 1639, we find some Times stiled *William Stephens of Doctors*

Commons; and at Others, of the *Middle Temple*, Esq; was his Marriage that Year with *Anne*, Daughter of — *Redman*, and Widow of *Edward Herbert*, of the Isle of *Wight*, Gentleman.

She was young, and no less remarkable for the Beauty and Comeliness of her Person, than for the rare Endowments of the Mind. She had great Eloquence, and a becoming Firmness and Resolution; as an Instance of which, we are told, that she undertook to plead her own Cause, in a Suit depending between her Brother-in-Law and her, and that with such Success, that she obtained a Decree for her Jointure, which was disputed. Whether the Civilian had assisted in the Recovery of it does not appear; but that he was not long in getting Possession is certain; for we find *Thomas*, Brother and Executor of *Edward Herbert*, giving Security in his Name for 187*l.* expressly said to be Part of her Jointure; in a few Months after, when she wrote her Name *Ann Stephens*.

The

William Stephens, Esq; 5

The next Step of any Note, was that of his being elected *Recorder of Newport*. In 1642, the Earl of *Pembroke*, then Governor, appointed him Steward and Bailiff of the Isle of *Wight*; and in 1644, made him *Wood-ward* and *Verdurer* of *New Forest*, of which the Earl was Lord Warden. In 1645, he appointed him also Receiver of the Rents of *Sutton Marsh*, in *Lincolnshire*; and Steward of his Lordship's Manors, Lands and Tenements, in *Wiltshire*, *Somersetshire*, *Dorset*, *Kent*, *Glamorgan*, and *Monmouthshire*. In 1646, he was appointed Deputy Steward, under his Lordship, of the Bishoprick of *Winchester*. In 1647, the Earl, together with Lord *Herbert*, nominated him one of the Commissioners to let, set, and sell, certain Estates within the Manors of *Hackney* and *Stepney* in *Middlesex*. In 1647, the Dean and Canons of *Windsor*, appointed *William Stephens*, of *New Sarum*, Esq; by them stiled, to be Steward of all their Lordships, Manors, Lands and Tenements; *quam diu se bene gesserit*. In 1650, he was ordered, by the Committee for removing
Ob-

Obstructions, to report the Matter of Complaint of *Alexander Cleeve*, of *Blunsden Place*, touching Goods and Chattels taken from him by the Earl of *Essex*, in marching his Army towards *Newbury*. In 1741, the Chancellor, Master and Scholars of *Oxford*, in full Convocation, created *William Stephens*, one of the Judges of the High Court of Admiralty, a Doctor of Civil Law, by Diploma. And the Commissioners of forfeited Estates appointed him Steward of several Manors. It does not appear, when he was first elected, nor for what Place; though in a Grant of Administration of his Brother's Goods, by the Keepers of the Liberty of *England*, in the same Year, he was stiled a Member of Parliament of the *Common-wealth*; probably for *Newport*, the chief Place of his Residence.

Such was the Number and Order of the several honourable and lucrative Posts he enjoyed, which it may easily be conceived, furnished him with the Means and Opportunities of making many advantageous Purchases,

William Stephens, Esq; 7

chases, and amassing the Estate before-mentioned in so short a Space of Time.

His first Purchase, among many of less considerable Notice, was of many Messuages in *Bristol* for 3000 *l.* His next, the Manor of *Chippen-Ongar* in *Essex*. Then that of the *Manse* of the Deanry of *Salisbury*, purchased of the Trustees for abolishing Deans and Chapters. A Moiety of the 30th Part of the Privileges of the Company of *Mineral* and *Battery-works*; and a Moiety of the 24th of the *Mines-royal*. Several Lands, also, to the Value of 3000 *l.* were purchased by him in the Name of his Brother *Richard*, of *Maids Moreton*, in the County of *Bucks*, Esq; He purchased, also, the Rectory and Parsonage of *Hackney*, with the Manor of *Grumbolds*, paying, on a Life of 31 Years, 100 *l. per Ann.* Had a Grant of the Bailiwick of the Manors of *Stebun-beath* and *Hackney*, in *Middlesex*; and of all Fines, Profits, &c. known by the Name of *Green-wax*, in those Manors. He agreed for the Scite and Demesne-lands of the Manor of *Woodperry*, in *Oxfordshire*, entered into a Bond

Bond of 1200*l.* to perform Covenants, and paid 600*l.* Fine to *New College* for the same. He purchased the Manor of *Barton* for 2000*l.* and the Manor of *Bowcombe* for 8000*l.* both in the Isle of *Wight*. Besides these, he had a large Interest in other considerable Places in *Hampshire*, as well as elsewhere, too many to be inserted.

These Particulars sufficiently shew what were the Principles and Politics of the Man; and though it is not pretended to justify his Dealings in the Spoils of the Church, of which he professed himself a Member, and in whose Communion he died; and which indicates such a Compliance with the Times, as shews, he had not a just Abhorrence of a Cause, which was founded in Rebellion, and involved his Country in so many Miseries and Calamities; yet, considered in private Life, whether as the Husband, Father, Friend, or Neighbour, he was possessed of as many amiable Qualities as most Men. He was moderate in his Principles, in great Esteem with truly good and pious Men, upright in the administration of Justice, very
con-

constant and devout himself in private and public Worship; keeing up a strict Order in his Family, with a regular Observance among them, and Discharge of all religious Duties; his Advice and Assistance were never with-held from he Distressed, and on the Poor he bestowed with a liberal Hand.

Notwithstanding his Connections with, and Adherence to a Party, whose Measures were subversive of the Religion and Government of their Country, and which will therefore fix an indelible Blot upon his Memory; he seems to have had the Virtue, as neither to have betrayed his Trust, nor to have gone such Lengths to procure Favour, as the usurped and factious Authority, under which he acted, would have warranted; or he might unquestionably have saved his Brother from that Ruin,* which his Loyalty to

B

his

* His Case, as stated and called by himself, in 1652.

A short NARRATIVE of the Sufferings of HENRY STEPHENS, Merchant, by the COMMON-WEALTH and PARLIAMENT of ENGLAND.

The Parliament's Shipps having taken some *French* Vessels, in Satisfaction thereof, in 1649, the *French* did seize, deteyne, and keep the said *Henry Stephens's* Goods,

his Prince in a good Measure drew on him ; for we find, that the Sentiments and Affections of a Brother, notwithstanding the Opposition of their Principles, were not extinguished in his Breast, as he contributed largely to his Support out of his Pocket.

Within a Year after the *Usurper's* Decease died the *Doctor*, not without leaving his Estate involved to the Amount of 4809*l.* and upwards. Among other Particulars of the Demands thereon was the Sum of 1009*l.* due to *William Urry*, formerly his Servant, and afterwards stiled of the *Middle Temple*,
Gen-

Goods, Wares and Merchandize, to the Value of 8000*l.* at one Time ; and did afterwards seize upon his Person and Papers also ; for the Discharge whereof he expended to the Value of 1500*l.* but could procure only his own Liberty and Enlargement.

In the same Year, he purchased, and laded on board a Ship of his own in *Ireland*, a Quantity of Salt-Hides to the Value of 2100*l.* which the Lords Justices and Council for *Ireland* took for their Use, and gave him a Bill for 1400*l.* to be paid in *England* at Sight ; 500*l.* of which, after tedious Sollicitations, were charged upon the Credit of Deans and Chapters-Lands, which he sold for 300*l.* and the remaining 900*l.* being settled upon such Delinquents Estates, as could be discovered at *Haberdashers-Hall*, he was forced to take 250*l.* and there remained 400*l.* in the Treasurer's Hands at *Haberdasher's Hall*.

In 1651, he had a Shipp named the *Young Whale*,
laden

Gentleman; who, we may presume, in his Master's Time, as we find after it, did not forego any Opportunity of fishing in troubled Water, and taking all Advantages of the Times and Persons he had to do with. The Widow, however, managed her Affairs with so much Prudence and Oeconomy, as to leave among her younger Children, not less than 4250*l.* together with an admirable Character.

The *Doctor* had several Children, of whom *William*, the eldest Son, succeeded to the Estate, incumbered as we have men-

B 2

tioned,

laden with Wines, which being forced from her Mooring, by a Shipp that run foul of her in the *Downes*, and losing her Anchors, was necessitated to run into *Lee-Road* for safe-guard of Goods and Men, was there violently seized on by 20 Souldiers, and being carried into the Port of *London*, was seized by Officers of the Customs, and informed against in the Exchequer; where the Informants would neither let go the Ship and Cargo upon Bail, nor proceed to Tryal, but forced the said *Henry Stephens* to pay to the *Common-wealth* and Informants 3500*l.* contrary to Law, Equity and Conscience.

The said *Henry Stephens*, and Part-owners, had a Shipp, named the *Ann* and *Joyce*, of 300 Tons and 32 Pieces of Ordnance, taken into the *Parliament's* Service; for which there is due from the Treasurer of the Navy 7000*l.* and upwards; great Part whereof belongs to the said *Henry Stephens*.

tioned, and, being disappointed in Love, hastily married *Elizabeth*, Daughter of *Henry Hillary*, a Grafier, in *Dorsetshire*. Her Portion, which was but 3000*l.* the Education and Life of a Gentleman, and the Employments he filled, were far from being the most likely Methods of making, or retrieving a Fortune. His first Employment, which served to divert his Application from domestic Concerns, was that of a Captain's Commission in the *Militia*, under Lord *Culpeper*, Governor of the *Isle of Wight*. After which, he was successively promoted to the several Ranks of Major, Lieut. Colonel, and Colonel, by the subsequent Governor, Sir *Rob. Holmes*. And what in no Ways mended the Matter, in the Year 1684, the merry Monarch, King *Charles* must knight him; but, to give Sir *William* his Due, this Honour chagrined him; for he not only complained of the Expence he had been already at in serving the Public, the *Militia* being then kept up it that Country with Spirit; but declared, that he did not expect that an empty Title, with its expensive Appendages, was to have been made

made the Reward of his Services. Sir *Robert Holmes*, to make him some Amends, proposed afterwards, in 1689, to make him his Deputy; which, it is said, Sir *William* immediately rejected, thanking the Governor for a Feather in his Cap for one Day, which might adorn that of another the next; and therefore refused any Thing less than the King's Commission; which was afterwards granted him, and he was the first Lieutenant-Governor of that Island. But this Promotion, tho' a lucrative one, being of but a short Duration, was far from extricating him from his Difficulties; for now his whole Time was taken up betwixt his new Employment, added to the foregoing, and parliamentary Attendance, where he served for the Borough of *Newport*. And when the Time came for a Change, neither his Punctuality or Integrity was of any Avail; for Lord *Cutts*, being appointed Governor, upon the Death of Sir *Robert Holmes*, writes to the Lieutenant-Governor, " That
" he has chosen a new One, not out of any
" Unkindness to him, *whom he assures of*
" *his*

“ *his Friendship upon all Occasions; but*
“ because it requires One that shall have no
“ other Business to mind, but reside always
“ at the Castle, and give himself wholly up
“ to it.” It must be observed, that Sir *William*’s House being within a Mile of the Castle, he spent more Time there than his Successor.

From long Experience and Persuasion of the Folly of engaging in Public Affairs, to the Neglect and Dissipation of one’s private Fortune, he admonished his eldest Son, but a little before his Death, “ never to have
“ any Thing to do with the Public, if he
“ could avoid it with Honour.” He did not long survive this Period; for he died suddenly at *Newport*, in 1697, leaving behind him two Sons, *William*, and *Richard*, and a Daughter, whose incomparable Virtues are, to this Day, remembered by some of *Sherbourne*, in *Dorsetshire*; where she married Mr. *Hodges*, an honest Gentleman of small Estate. She died at *Bath* of the Small-pox, in the Thirty-sixth Year of her Age, without Issue. *Richard* was brought
up

up a Physician, and was no less eminent for his Learning and medical Knowledge, than remarkable for his great Indolence, being, what is called, an absent Man.

Some Instances which occurred, particularly two, in his younger Life, will serve to mark the Man; the One, his Answer to the Provost of *Queen's*, who was *jobing* him, when he had set his Chambers on Fire. "Fear not, Sir, I'll build the College again." The Other, when of *All Souls*, having so entirely forgot a public Exercise he was to hold, on the Day of it, that he had not begun to write his Notes, till put in Mind, by seeing the Students go by his Window to the *Theatre*, yet came off with Applause. And such Cures did he perform in his Practice, as gained him the greatest Reputation; particularly in the Case of a Gentleman to whom he was sent for, from *Winchester*, where he lived, to *Oxford*; where the Patient had lain seventeen Days in an Inflammation and Obstruction in his Bowels, and without Relief, till he prescribed, contrary to the Opinion of other eminent Physicians.

Yield-

Yielding to the Opinion of the most able in *Hampshire*, he sent his own Child to *Bristol*, who died within a Week, as he foretold. A Lady, unfortunate in Abortions, and who had no Hopes of Life, under the Care of a great Knight in *London*, was recovered by him, and had a Son, whom the Father used to call the *Doctor's* Boy, and who is, at this Day, a lusty Baronet, and Father of Children. 'Tis said, that he never had but two Patients, who died in the Small-pox, tho' he had great Practice; in which his Neglect was the only complaint against him; except that of a Lady in the Vapours, for ordering of no Medicines; with whom he expostulated, till, it may be said, he both recovered, and lost his Patient; for asking in a Manner, not suiting her Delicacy, "What
" is it to you, if I cure you with white
" Bread and Butter?" She so resented it, as to forbid his Coming again; happily keeping up her Spirits, without the Help of Drugs, or the *Doctor*; who did not greatly promote the Sale of them; for he had a Sort of Dislike to three Professions, *viz.* *Apo-*
the-

thecaries, Attornies, and Bankers. As he advanced in Years, he grew unweildy, being so corpulent, as to load the Chariot he rode in, and regardless of Business, as to lose very great Opportunities again in *London*. His Time was so entirely devoted to Books and Amusements, that None of his great and good Friends, of whom he had many, could prevail with him to give due Attendance, where they recommended him; not even Sir *James Worsely*, who loved him as a Brother. At last, he carried the same Temper to *Dublin*, where his old Friend Dr. *Cobb*, Bishop of *Kildare*, took him in Hand to as little Purpose; for he died in 1735, leaving two Daughters, with small Fortunes; who, without his Failings, inherit his Virtues; among which, true Piety and extreme good Nature should not be forgot.

The Mother of this Gentleman was not short of any of the Family in good Sense; for Instance, though she was *Lady Stephens*, yet being a right West-country Housewife, it was with Difficulty, that her Husband could prevail on her to visit *London*, of which

Place she had entertained not the most favourable Opinion; but, when she came thither, and saw how lively People appeared, and how industriously they were employed, she confessed herself agreeably disappointed, saying, "every Body here is doing Something," of which the *Louts* did not want the Hearing, when she returned into the Country.



CHAP. II.

The Birth and Education of William Stephens, Esq; with his Conduct, until the Estate was spent.

WILLIAM STEPHENS, Esq; who spent what was left of the Estate by his Father Sir *William*, who had let too much of it slip through his Fingers, was born at *Bowcombe*, in the *Isle of Wight*, on Jan. 28, 1671, O. S. He was in Esteem with People of Fashion, whilst a Boy, for his

his manly Sense and Carriage; and with the lower Sort of People, for his Affability and good Nature; even the Servant, who was called to receive his Commands, thinking himself favoured and happy in the Execution of them. It is said, that an old House-keeper, who had the Management of a very large Dairy, left him a Butter-tub, full of Money, at her Death; which, howsoever perhaps not strictly true, may serve, among many other Instances, to shew, that the Foundation of his Ruin was laid by Others, long before he came of Age; when he scarce knew what it was to be contradicted neither.

His Education was such as suited his Genius, which abhorred any Thing unmanly; therefore, not delighting much in Accomplishments of a softer Nature, such as Dancing, Drawing, &c. it was employed in the Classics, Fencing, Riding, and other manly Exercises. He went through *Winchester* School (where he was a Commoner) with such Facility as to have had Abundance of Time to himself; and a numerous Acquain-

tance he made there, which lasted for Life. From *Winchester* he was sent to *King's College* in *Cambridge*; not from any Dislike to *Oxford*, but that he might not be too near *William*, the Son of *Dr. Pittis*, his Cousin and School-fellow, who was of *New College*, and of more Wit and Learning than Discretion. This Precaution, however prudent in *Sir William*, was so far unnecessary, as we find *Pittis* regardless of the Value, or Want of Money, that the Geniuses of the two young Gentlemen were totally dissimilar; for One set no Bounds to his Extravagance, whilst the Other was so remarkable an Oeconomist, as to keep a regular Account, from the Time of his being a School-boy, of his Receipts and Disbursements; and if he ever exceeded, some plausible Reason appeared to have been given for it. But his Kinsman was often engaged in Scrapes of one Kind or other; and seems to have been as little scrupulous how he got into Debt, as he appears to have been unconcerned, when he could send, in a Vein of Humour and Pleasantry, to his Friend to
come

come and see him in his handsome Lodgings;
and at the same Time tell him, he is at a
Loss how to pay for them. What he wrote,*

whilst

* Landlady, seeing Nothing come,
Takes out a Writ, and sees a *Bum*,
And, to make Good the Pay of Quarters,
Calls in th' Assistance of the *Tartars*;
And at my Chamber-door, confound her!
Places a four and twenty Pounder.
I, the mean Time, poor, fuddling Sinner!
Suspected no such Treach'ry in her;
But about Nine, in Morning waking,
With Head for last Night's Claret aching,
To Chamber-door, my Worship wagging,
Thrust back the Bolt, and call'd for Flaggin.
But see, what damn'd Misfortunes follow,
My thus debasing noble Swallow!
Descend to Sin, so low as small Beer!
A Curse, for Time to come, on all Beer!
For 'stead of honest Wench, call'd *Christian*,
In steps, a heathenish *Philistian*,
And cries your servant Master P——s,
Against your Worship, Sir, this Writ is.
Then you may judge, I stood like Fool here,
And wanted no small Beer for cooler.
However I, to make the best
Of what is bad, cry'd, *whose Arrest?*
For that's a Question poor Defendant,
Makes to the Bailiff his Attendant:
Sir, it's at the Suit of one you know well,
Your Landlady, old Mrs. Powel.
A trifling Action, cries the Varlet,
For one, like you, in Stockings scarlet,
Who makes so noble an Appearance;
I could have wish'd she'd had Forbearance;
But four and twenty Pound, said Bum, Sir; ———
An inconsiderable Sum, Sir:

When

whilst in Custody, to a Club, of which he was a Member, will serve as a Specimen of his Humour.

Nothing can be offered in Excuse for this Sort of Behaviour; though his Vivacity was so great, that it was with Difficulty he could lay aside his Gaiety, even upon grave Subjects; as appears upon another Occasion; *

yet

When in comes B——, of House the Mistress,
And thus addressees Man in Distress,
Sir, it is in vain to stand here prating,
Pay for your Lodging and for Eating;
Money's the Thing I want, for Words
They signify no more than T——s,
Your Mother's rich, your Brother preaches,
In Lombard-street † among the Riches,
They'll lay down what's your Debt, or bail you;
Sure such Relations will not fail you!
I, who knew better, said no more,
But dress'd myself, and d——d the W——
Put nicest Periwig and Phiz on,
And off I march'd with Bum to Prison.

† Dr. Isham, Rector of Bishopsgate, and Lecturer of Abholwells, in Lombard-street, married his Sister.

* The Battle-royal, between Dr. Sh——, Dr. S——, and Dr. B——t.

I.

A Déan and Prebendary
Had once a new Fagary,
And were at doubtful Strife, Sir,
Who led the better Life, Sir,
And was the better Man.

The

yet he was neither used to treat Things sacred with Levity, nor prostitute his Pen, which was sometimes employed against such as did so.

But to return: — Mr. *Stephens*, after he left the University, was entered of the *Temple*, though several Avocations taking him off from the Study of the Law, he was never called to the Bar. And it happened, in the 25th

II.

The *Dean*, he said that truly
Since *Bluff* was so unruly,
He'd prove it to his Face, Sir,
That he had the most Grace, Sir,
And so the Fight began.

III.

When *Preb* — reply'd like Thunder,
And roar'd out, 'twas no Wonder;
For *Gods* the *Dean* had three, Sir,
And more by two than He, Sir,
For he had got but One.

IV.

Now while these Two were raging,
And in Disputes engaging,
The *Master* of the *Charter*
Said, both had caught a *Tartar*;
For that *Gods* there were *None*.

V.

And all the Books of *Moses*,
Were nothing but Supposes,
And he deserv'd Rebuke, Sir,
Who wrote the *Pentateuch*, Sir,
'Twas Nothing but a Sham.

And

25th Year of his Age, that he was introduced into the Company of a Daughter of Sir *Richard Newdigate*, at the House of a Friend, where she was making a Visit in the *Isle of Wight*. The Consequence of this was, that he was no less taken with the striking Beauty, and extraordinary Endowments of the young Lady, than she with the Gracefulness of his Person and Conversation. It cannot be imagined, that his Father could be averse to an Alliance which promised so much Happiness on his Son's Side; and where Fortune and Family were both superior to his. The Difficulty lay with her

Fa-

VI.

And as for Father *Adam*,
 With Mistress *Eve* his *Madam*,
 And what the *Serpent* spoke, Sir,
 Was Nothing but a Joke, Sir.
 And well-invented Flam.

VII.

Thus, in this Battle Royal,
 As None would take Denial,
 The *Dame* for which they strove, Sir,
 Could neither of them love, Sir,
 For *All* had giv'n Offence.

VIII.

She therefore sily waiting,
 Left all three Fools a-prating,
 And being in a Fright, Sir,
 RELIGION took her Flight, Sir,
 And ne'er was heard of since.

Father, who, when the Proposal was made, objected to the Smallness of his Patrimony; but as this was the only Objection, his personal Merit was of more Consideration with the Lady, whose Father would not force her Inclinations. This fair, accomplished Lady, besides the Fortune brought with her, did great Honour to the Family she married into.

Within a little more than a Year after they were married, his Father died, when the Importunities of his Acquaintance, and of the Town of *Newport*, prevailed on him to take a Seat in Parliament. He complied, however with such Reluctance that, with Tears in his Eyes, he said to his Wife, at his Return from the Election, “ I have
“ done ill in disobeying my Father’s Injun-
“ tion,” notwithstanding he had neither bought, nor solicited a Vote. But his Wife, ever ready to administer Comfort, and willing to extenuate, asked him, “ if he could
“ avoid it with Honour, [his Father’s Words]
“ when the People were unanimous in their
“ Choice of him, and had earnestly besought

D

“ him

“ him to represent them in Parliament?”
Though in her Heart she wished it had been otherwise.

With his Seat in Parliament, and Command in that well-trained Militia under Lord *Cutts*, in the *Isle of Wight*, his Time was pretty much employed without Profit to himself; for as, with invincible Modesty, and no great Fondness for Pre-eminence, or other Ambition but to deserve well, he could ask for Nothing; so when it was thought fit that any Post of Honour should be conferred on him, it was received with a deep Sense of his Duty and Obligation in the Discharge of it, which ever out-went his Views of Gain. Being thus engaged, he bid adieu to all rural Recreations, except for Relaxation only; and was so devoted to the Service of his Country, as to give up his Time and Study to the Prosecution of it. With this Employment, the Expence of House-keeping, together with a young Family, increased upon him; he moreover kept an Equipage in Honour to his Lady; though it is certainly more than she ever desired.

His

His House, being near *Cowes*, became the Rendezvous for the Nobility and Gentry, resorting to the *Isle of Wight*; and though he was as plain in his Furniture as in his own Apparel; yet such were the Outgoings for so small an Estate, as would amaze any One, who is unacquainted with his Exactness in Oeconomy. This will more fully appear, by considering his Attendance in Parliament, and on Elections, then triennial, the Militia, Assizes and Sessions as Justice of Peace; which Office he executed with such Satisfaction and Uprightness, as brought him great Business, but no Profits; besides which, he was the *Oracle* at the *Petty-Sessions*, and Arbitrator and Peacemaker among his Neighbours; and was *literally* the public Servant of his Country.

When the Borough of *Newport* was at his Devotion, he consented, in so genteel a Manner, to their Election of Lord *Cutts*, of whom he had not so high an Opinion in every other Respect, as in that of a Soldier, that his Lordship acknowledged the Civili-

ty soon after;* and was so sensible of the Fitness of his Talents either to command or obey, that Nothing was done without him; notwithstanding Few were more expert in

Bu-

* S I R,

LONDON, April 11th, 1702.

I Have heard, from more Hands than One, of your kind Expressions towards me; which I shall acknowledge upon all Occasions, as long as I live; and shall be glad of the first Opportunity to demonstrate what a grateful Sense I have of your Friendship. Pray write to me sometimes, and believe me, with Truth,

Sir, your faithful,

Humble Servant,

CUTTS.

To William Stephens, Esq;

Who writes in Answer,

My Lord,

SO very kind a Letter, as you were pleased to honour me with, gives me too much Cause to doubt, that your Treatment among us has been very coarse. Your Lordship cannot but know, that I was ever a Stranger to those little Designs which were hatched, no Matter where, to make the Country unhappy by your Lordship's Displeasure. I will not presume to enter into a Detail of those Things, which no Doubt but you have seen to the Bottom of, therefore shall trouble your Lordship no farther, than to beg to be thought, as in Duty, your most obedient, so, out of a just Respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most faithful

Humble Servant,

Will. Stephens.

Business than his Lordship; whose Letters, all wrote in his own Hand, were both concise and correct. But the faithful and unwearied Services of Mr. *Stephens* were paid in that Sort of Ware that costs little; as there appears Nothing more than Professions, in which his Lordship might have been sincere in writing; "That he had an established Friendship for him; That he should be glad to see an Occasion of doing him real Service, &c. &c." Though, as he never did him a good Office, it may be presumed, his Sight was no better than common. The Lieutenant Governor, for whom Sir *William* gave Way to make Room for, understood the Art and Use of Adulation * too;

* Dear Sir,

St. James's:

IT took me up all the Way from *Kensington*, to attend my Lord's Encomiums upon your Letter, in Answer to his upon the Settlement of the Militia; than which Nothing could be more grateful to me; and I with greater Things depended upon so good and just an Opinion.

I am to thank you for your last Letter, and assure you, that I intend my last Minutes in *England*, shall be in the *Isle of Wight*; and particularly at *Buen Retiro*,† which shall always retain in me a grateful Remembrance

† Mr. *Stephens*'s House, so called by Col. *Dudley*.

too; though a Gentleman of solid Sense, and good Nature, as well as Wit and Humour.

When Party-strife ran high, Mr. *Stephens* naturally trode in the Steps of his Father; who had no great Opinion of that Principle, or Delusion, to which the Subversion of Government has been, as the wounded Constitution is still, deeply indebted; but he never had that Dislike to Men, who might differ with him in Opinion, that some mighty Tories had, who have been since metamorphos'd into staunch Whigs. And the Gentlemen of the *Isle of Wight* professing the same Principle, great Harmony subsisted among them for a long Time; tho' not interrupted by false Brethren and Intruders. Of the latter was One, who so well understood

brance of my kind Reception and Support far from Home.

I am, Sir,

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant,

J. Dudley.

To *William Stephens, Esq;*
at *Barton, Isle of Wight.*

stood what he was about, and was so much a Man of Business, that, for good Services done, he was many Years Lieutenant Governor there. Which sat very ill upon the Stomachs of Some, who neither understood what they were doing, or *knew* themselves. But his good Nature, which was accompanied with an open Behaviour, though his Sentiments were not the most refin'd, recommended him to Mr. *Stephens*, who always preferr'd Men of that Disposition, to those of a close Temper, be his Party what it would. And these two could part Friends after such a Dialogue * as does not happen every

* WESTMINSTER-HALL, 1706.

Col. *Morgan*. Well, Mr. *Stephens*! *Shepherd* begins to play his Tricks with us; for notwithstanding his Assurances to Sir *Tristram Dillington* Yesterday, that he would not oppose him, now he tells him, if his Friends have a Mind to stand by him, he cannot desert them; but by G—d, I'll lay 50*l.* he has not four Votes.

Mr. *Stephens*. I believe Mr. *Shepherd* will hardly find Interest enough to carry it; and unless any other Gentleman of the Country stands, without Doubt, Sir *Tristram* is sure of it.

M. Any other Gentleman! suppose they do, what? I don't believe Colonel *Leigh* intends it; and if Sir *William Oglander* should, I am sure he cannot pretend to an Interest equal with us.

every Day; for which Reason Mr. *Stephens* took it down in Writing.

But notwithstanding the Colonel must be allowed to have had his good Qualities; yet his Office, to disturb the Peace of a Country, was not the most desirable. And as his Measures were not the most laudable; so his Conquest cannot be sufficiently lamented, as it laid a Corporation so despicably low, that

S. I can't tell that; for you know Sir *William* is well acquainted, and I dare say, has a great many Friends in the Corporation.

M. And I think we have more, or else, 'twould be hard: I am sure of 10 at first Thought. There's all the Men of Places you know must Vote, or else by G—d, they shall out.

S. Well, that is fairly declared!

M. Why now let's reckon; there's *Matthews*, there's *Fr. Serle*, there's the two *Bowlers* (for, by G—d, the old One shall engage his Son, and I believe he'll take Care how he disoblige me now) there's *Hayles*, and all his Gang that he can command, I know who they are, and, God d—mn him, if he does not bring 'em all in, he shall move. Then there's *Byles*, there's *Tho. Serle*, there's *Ned Trattle*, and ——— what's his Name, ——— that broke 'tother Day? All them I am sure of; and I believe *Keblewhite* too; then *Cheeke*, you'll allow, I can't be mistaken in.

S. Nay, according to this Computation, you have a Force sufficient to carry it against all Mankind. But do you really think to make use of this Way, and let those that don't come in voluntarily know what you intend?

M.

that instead of chusing one of their own Country for their Representative, a Footman came with an Order to send a Stranger, whom they never saw, for a Member; not one of them daring to groud, or shew his Teeth this Day; in such Awe are they deservedly kept by those who hated the Family of *Morgans* for so doing. Their Interest could not prevail against Mr. *Stephens* immediately; because he had come in with

E the

M. Do I? Yes, marry do I; and there's the Post-Master too, he shall know what he must trust to; I believe there's a Letter gone to him already. And *Shergold* too; by G—d, I'll lay you 50*l.* he will be stir himself in it for us; he'll not think the Castle a Thing fit to be hazarded. I had forgot *Woodford* too.

S. Now, Sir, to tell you plainly my Mind; if this, that you propose, be effectual, I don't see why you may not make two Members at any Time, as well as one now; and at this Rate, whoever stands at *Newport*, must ask your Leave.

M. Z——ds, do you think they shall shuffle and trick? I'll have none of their Trimming, by G—d.

S. Whether I may serve again, I can't tell; but this is one Way of declaring against me.

M. Why so? Does that follow now? I can tell you, they shall think it worth their while to have some Regard to me. Would not you, or any one, do the same as I say.

A great Deal more ensued, too many Things said to be recollected, & *Quæ nunc prescribere longum est.*

W. S.

the unpolluted Voice of a People, not able to hold out for ever against such a Bombardment; but the Seeds of Dissention being sown, the Fruits * were seen in due Time; tho' the Colonel himself levelled Nothing at him personally, and they continued always in the same Sort of Friendship.

In

* *Gentlemen,*

THE late scandalous Treatment I have met with from Mr. *Daniel Towmay*, an Officer of the Customs at *Cowes*, puts me under a Necessity of doing myself common Justice. He takes upon him to vilify me in an uncommon Manner, and not many Days since, in public Company, where my Name happened to be mentioned, said, that he knew me well enough; the Duke of *Bolton* would take Care of, and do my Business; for I was trying to subvert the Government. In no wise conscious of any Slackness in my Endeavours to my utmost, to make my Loyalty evident, much less of harbouring so much as an ill Thought of the Government; and as much as I assure myself of his Grace the Duke of *Bolton's* Favour, which I would by no Means forfeit, by any Disrespect to him in Particular, or public Misbehaviour; so I have not the least Doubt but you will do me that Justice, as not to let me be insulted and become a By-word among the *Beasts of the People*.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your most humble Servant,

Will. Stephens.

Barton, Aug. 15, 1709.

To the Hon. the Commissioners of the Customs.

In 1709, died his Father-in-Law, Sir *Richard Newdigate*, with whom he was a great Favourite, and by him left Executor of a Will, in which the Lawyers found such Room for Litigation, that, had it not been for his Prudence, the Estate, which was very little hurt, would have been greatly injured, if not entirely ruined; and he ever remained in Friendship with the Family, who have since requited that good Turn.

At the End of about twelve Years Toil, or more, for his Comfort, the Lord Treasurer told him, in 1712, that "he had him in his Pocket;" and in some Months after that, "he was appointed a *Commissioner* of the "*Vitrualling*;" of which he wrote Word to the Corporation of *Newport*, who thereupon re-elected him. But this Office was the Occasion of bringing his Family to Town; which, though it did not increase, yet neither did it lessen his Expence; and it being of no long Continuance, he got little by his Place; notwithstanding it does not appear that he was quartered upon, it being said, that Commissioners in those Days received their

full Salaries. Besides, he was not properly qualified for the Office; for, ignorant of Perquisites and Trade, without the *right* Knowledge of Figures, and *Portsmouth* being his Branch, he was active in settling some Accounts of Beer delivered for the Use of the Navy, in which were some Mistakes to the Amount of 20,000*l.* and upwards, as some of the Brewers confessed, besides what more were concealed by those concerned. And with the Assistance of Mr. *Hanway*, than Agent Victualler and others,* so tight

Dear Sir,

Dock, Jan. 9, 1712.

YOU can never more oblige, than by entertaining me with our worthy Friend's Letters, of which I shall only say, that they cannot be too long. Were I a fine Lady, and he passionately in Love, it should be long e'er he came to Enjoyment, while he continued to charm me that Way. I am glad to hear that he has confirmed what you have heard me talk of a thousand Times. They are on a pretty good Scent. None of these foul Practices could ever have been but by Connivance of Agents, &c.

I observe that our Friend, who I hope to see at the Head of that Board, for he will save the Government, in *this Port*, more than Ten Thousand Pounds a Year, I say he is mistaken as to the Price of the Beer; for that is 4*l.* per Ton; and he don't seem to perceive a further Cheat of 5*s.* per Ton for the Cask. Adieu,

Yours,

W. Smith.

To ——— in *Portsmouth*.

a Hand was kept upon Traders who had dealt largely in the Retail Way, as to make him not very popular, where they have fared better ever since his Dismission, which happened soon after the Queen's Death. However, not before he was honoured with a Visit from the first Lord of the Admiralty, to acquaint him, that he might continue in his Place; but upon signifying some Dislike to the Conditions, he was left out of the Commission.

And now Colonel *Morgan's* Arguments carried so much Weight, that in the Year 1714, Mr. *Stephens* was polled against at *Newport* for the first Time, and opposed by those to whom he had been kind; * not because

* S I R,

Soueth Hampton, 9ber 16th.

I Am this far homward from *Hackwood*, but Mr. *Urry* got thether before me, riding all Night. My Lord spake very honestly, and seemed to be trobelled, that he did not no my Intensions sowner, haveing forgott that I had spoken to him. Sir, I heartily thank you for your good Intensions in this Affair, and shall always be ecknollidged by,

Sir, your hambell Sarvant,

J. R.

For Cornall *William Stephens*,
a Member in Parlyment,
att *Westminster*.

cause he wanted them, but because they had been in Want of what is named not.* But it must not be concluded, that his Constituents were all alike; for some of the Corporation kept their Integrity many Years after this happened; and it was not without Struggle at last, that some among them parted with their Representative in Exchange for a Member; there being Gentlemen of Principle as well as Wealth in the Town, as Major *Leigh* and Mr. *Read*, the last of whom was as poor as any Alderman there, yet he kept his Fingers clean; and in his Letters to Mr. *Stephens*, so late as 1721, when he was grown old, he humorously ridicules their Squabbles about raising Money *to pay their drunken Debts.*

Though

Cornall *Stephens*,

* S I R,

I Retorne you my harty Thanks for your kind Assistance you have given towards my Sons Affaiers, and I doe assuer you, thatt whenever itt is in my Power too do any thing that may be of Saruis to you or yours, I shall always be verry redy and willing to sarue you, who am

Sir,

Your most harty huble Sarvantt,

March 26, 1712.

J R.

Though before it came to a Poll in 1714, some of the Corporation were greatly embarrassed and perfectly at a Loss on whom else to fix their Choice; with which he thought it best to acquaint General *Webb*, who, in a Letter some Time before, desired the Favour of him “to use his Interest with
“the Mayor and Corporation of *Newport*
“to secure his Election.” Accordingly Mr. *Stephens* dispatched a trusty Servant with a Letter,* to which the General returned

a

S I R,

Barton, Dec. 18th, 1714.

I Did myself the Honour of writing by the Post, how I found the People's Inclinations at *Newport*, and, to represent the Whole truly and faithfully, I chuse to send a Servant on Purpose.

It is now universally agreed, that Mr. *Craggs* is to stand for One. They are all well assured (by whom I can't tell) that you do not intend to stand yourself. It is as certainly known, that Colonel *Morgan*, or some other Person is to appear as a Third; and at his going away 'tother Day for *London*, he dropt some Words, importing, that when he came down again, he would bring one with him which should answer their Purpose.

I have been daily visited by my Friends, who shew such an uncommon Concern for my Election, as is not to be expressed; and upon telling Noses make it plain, that the Gentleman you recommend will be thrown out, which I most heartily wish may not be; and you'll believe that such a Misadventure would be almost as much Cause

a friendly Answer,* which discovered the Author's Sentiments at such Time, when it may be presumed, the Messenger was detained by him only till his Election at St. James's was

Cause of some base Rejoicings here, as if they defeated me. Were the Cause your own, the Votes would be for you ; but they have, a great many of them, declared, that rather than have two Whigs put upon them, they will have never an one, and begin to talk of a Fourth.

This real Truth I lay before you with all imaginable Regard, as when I last waited upon you, Sir, you wished me Success in so kind a Manner, that I can never forget it. My Service is not likely to be acceptable much longer. I have wonder'd that I have not been dismissed e're now. And my Country is so desirous to give me an Opportunity of shewing my Zeal for our established Constitution, I should be to blame to decline it. Nothing, therefore, gives me Uneasiness, but the Thoughts of my Election's interfering with your Interest, which I would gladly promote ; if you will be pleased to let me have a Line or two of your Thoughts, it would be Pleasure to me to be capable of doing you Service.

I am, Sir, &c.

Will. Stephens.

To General Webb.

* Behold the Answer.

S I R,

London, Dec. 23, 1714.

I Have kept your Man in Town till this Day, in hopes to have sent you a satisfactory Answer to yours. I proposed, and was in Hopes to have agreed with them to compromise the Election for *Newport*, in chusing you and one that I should recommend ; but I find

was secured. But the other might have replied, in the Stile of his Excellency, "That his Majesty had been so good and gracious as to continue him Commissioner like-wise," though he did not ask it.

In the Tumult of the succeeding Year, he scarce knew how to divide himself betwixt two violent Parties; though he associated with those, who seemed to bid fairest for preserving the Constitution. And ha-

F ting

find Colonel *Morgan* has more Credit with the great People than I have, and assures them, it will be an easy Matter to bring in two Whigs at that Corporation. It was proposed to me, that if Colonel *Holmes* would consent, that Colonel *Morgan* should come in at *Yarmouth*, they would agree, that you should at *Newport*: This Proposal I did not encourage, and told them, I was confident Colonel *Holmes* would not comply with it. In short, I find they are resolved to venture it Tout for Tout.

It is with a great Deal of Concern that I tell you, *I shall be obliged, I believe, to act in Conjunction with others, against one of the Men in the World I have the greatest Friendship for, who is yourself: On the other Hand, it would be base and ungrateful in me, when his Majesty has been so good and gracious as to continue me Governor, to turn that Interest which he has given me against his Ministry. My Service to Col. Holmes.*

I am, Sir,

Your most humble Servant,

J. Webb,

To *William Stephens, Esq;*

ting Extremities, he could not reconcile himself to the Fury of those who were for proceeding against the Lord Treasurer and the Queen's Cabinet Council, for putting an End to an expensive War which we had carried on for the Advantage of the *Dutch*, and their Friends, till it became as much a Trade as Brewing. For he was not under the highest Obligations to his Lordship; who, had he been more attached to those as disinterested as Mr. *Stephens*, might have been better served than he was, and perhaps not have gone to the *Tower* as he did. And from an Opinion, that the Measures of those at that Time in Power, were tending to sap the Foundation of Liberty, under the specious Pretence of preserving it, he thought it so unsafe to trust a secret Enemy, that he kept to that Side, which, with all their Errors, appear'd to him most likely to preserve both our Religion and Liberty; though his Coldness, with regard to the Succession, was much greater, than any Prejudice he had conceived against the House of *Hanover*.

How-

However, Solicitations were not wanting to bring him to a *right* Way of thinking: Lord *Cadogan*, and Others, being sent to him for that Purpose; his Lordship, in particular, frankly told him how it was in Town, where they knew *all about it*, whilst in the Country they were ignorant of the *Affair*; and Abundance more, with which the Pupil was very little edify'd; though he was always upon good Terms with his Preceptor; who passing him soon after in the Court of Requests, where, in earnest Discourse with Colonel *Holmes*, his Lordship saluted them unheeded; which appearing as a wilful Neglect, it was remembered with so much Concern, that he said, elsewhere, he did not expect any Thing *so rude* from Mr. *Stephens*.

But he became now of little Consequence to the Majority of the Coporation at *Newport*, who had been some Years under the Tuition of Colonel *Morgan*; and not forgotten by others his *Friends*, so long even as they thought only, he could serve a

Turn,* it was his Fate to be their Dupe elsewhere. They were pretty unanimous in their Choice of him at *Newtown*; and the good Neighbourhood of the Gentlemen, for such they were in that Corporation, not being extinguished, several of them dined one Day at his House, as they used to do at each others in Turn. But Mention being made

Norfolk-Street, March 21, 1721.

* *Dear Sir,*

I Am glad to hear the Borough of *Newport* hath made an Offer of chusing my Friend Sir *Redmond Everard*. His Character is so well known, that he does not want any Recommendation of mine.† But I must do him the Justice to say, they could not have pitched upon a Gentleman of more *Honour and Integrity*; nor one more like their late Representative. After this, I need not desire you to give him your Countenance and best Assistance. I know you take Pleasure in serving *honest Men*; and in this Case you will have the Satisfaction of *serving the Public*, at the same Time that you do an Act of Friendship.

I am, with the utmost Affection and Respect,

Dear Sir,

Your most faithful,

Humble Servant,

Will. Shippen.

To *William Stephens, Esq;*
at *Barton.*

S I R,

† His Recommendation went about the same Time, in two very small Sheets of Paper, mark'd and number'd, each *L 250.*

made of Colonel *Boreman*, says Capt. *Jackson*, who had been a Commander of good Note in the Navy, and was a brave Tory, "Why, this *Boreman*, you talk so much of, "is a stinking Whig." Says Mr. *Stephens*, very unluckily, though without Design to offend, "Have a Care what you say; for "there is no Body greater than him with "your Neighbour;" meaning Col. *Holmes*, who was not far from the other at Table, where these Tory Friends were regaling themselves. How innocently soever this was meant, it was retorted with some Asperity; "And you are great with the *Morgans*." In short, both lost their Tempers; and,

* S I R,

Bidsden, July 3, 1722.

MR. *John Whittmore*, is a Candidate for a Fellowship at *All Souls College*, in *Oxford*, and you will oblige me very much if you will influence † your Son in his Favour. He was very serviceable in the *Shropshire* Election, and is a very honest Gentleman of that Country, who you will likewise oblige, as well as

Sir, your most humble Servant,

J. Webb.

To *William Stephens, Esq;*
at *Barton*.

† A modest Request after dropping him in so courtly a Manner in 1714. See the General's Letter, Fol. 40.

and, not without Altercation, they parted in such Anger, as broke off all Communication betwixt the two Families, intimate till then; though not before Mr. *Stephens* was told, before the Company, "It was I that brought you into Parliament."

It appears, that Mr. *Stephens* was more intimate with *Boreman*, who had been Godfather to one of his Children, than with the *Morgans*, of whom he never asked so great a Favour. But their Interest treading upon the Heels of the *Holmes's*, they were above all others obnoxious to them; and what did not extenuate the Crime of Opposition, a Servant of the Lieutenant Governor's had a House accidentally, some say otherwise, over against a genteel One which the other Gentleman had built, and lived in, which was disagreeable enough at that Time. And if Mr. *Stephens* solicited Colonel *Holmes* to bring him into Parliament, as implied, it could have been with no other selfish View, than making Use of his Privilege, to settle his own Affairs, after having let an Opportunity

tunity slip,* whilst he was attending those of his Constituents; for, if any of them, knowing the Frailties of Mankind, had a Suspicion of his making an ill Use of the Con-

* Considering the Uncertainty of my Life, how little a while it may please God to continue me here, how much incumbered the Estate is, what little Hopes I have of retrieving it by ordinary Means; and, therefore, how afflicting the Thoughts are of leaving my Family under Perplexities and Difficulties; and having now a reasonable Prospect of providing for them, I think myself bound in Duty and Conscience, to make the following Proposal to my dear Wife and eldest Son.

That the Farm and Manor of *Bowcomb* be sold, which I have Reason to expect will yield such a Price, that I shall be enabled to pay all my Debts, and settle as follows, viz.

Eight Thousand Pounds, and the Estate of *Barton*, in Trustees, for my Wife after my Decease, during her Life, and after her Death, to her eldest Son, &c.

Six Thousand Pounds likewise, for the Fortunes of my six younger Children, after my Decease: Nevertheless, I would have it in my Power to take from one and add to another, if any of them should prove undutiful; and, if either of them die, the Portion of such to be divided among the surviving. And if either of them marry with my Consent, or require their Portion to carry on any Trade or Business, it should be in my Power to direct the Payment thereof. And such Child, whose Fortune is unpaid, during my Life, shall be entitled to it after my Decease, at the Age of One and Twenty.

One Hundred Pounds a Year to be paid, out of the Interest which will arise from the 8000*l.* to my eldest Son, which, with his *Fellowship* at *All Souls*, would enable

Confidence which they had reposed in him, the Event proved it groundless; as, in a lost Cause, he had spent the last of his Estate, when he took Leave, not only of the Parliament, but of Parliamentering, as he did upon the Death of the late King in 1727;

not

able him to live reputably, and follow his Business * chearfully.

Fifty Pounds a Year to my Wife, which I desire her to accept of as Pocket-money.

And what farther Interest or Profit shall arise out of the 8000*l.* during my Life, I must have the Use and Disposal of, as well as the whole Interest and Profit of the 6000*l.* or of so much as shall then remain, for the Support of my Family, and the Education of my younger Children; as also the Surplus after the Sale of the Estate, and the several Sums before-mentioned are thus disposed of; which I should endeavour so to improve, together with the Rest of the Estate, as well to increase my eldest Son's, as to add to my other Children's Fortunes, as their Behaviour may deserve.

Consider, if this take Effect, how advantageous it would be to the Family, and that instead of the Anxiety which I have so long lived in, all would be calm and easy within; the promoting their Good would be a constant Delight; and, in Spite of all such, who would be glad to see me fall, I should hope to live contentedly, and serve my God with a quiet Mind, whom I pray to direct——

August 5, 1720.

Will. Stephens.

Though this was agreed to, yet, through the Dilatoriness of his Agent, and the Stocks falling, it came to Nothing. From whence we may learn, like his Grandfather, to serve ourselves first, and Country after.

* Barrister at Law.

not without Reason to believe, as it was said
by Sir Robert (a wiser) *Worsely*, little of
whose Money was so spent, THAT PARTY
WAS A CONTRIVANCE ONLY TO SERVE
PRIVATE INTEREST.



C H A P. III.

*Was abandon'd by the Tories, and received by
Whigs, without regard to Party.*

AS he had been unguarded against Dan-
ger, in playing upon the Square, a-
mong Men of Honour, so was he ignorant
that *Self* was seldom so little prevalent, a-
mong those of all Denominations, as with
himself, till roused from his Stupor, by Let-
ters from several Tories saluting him much
in the same Stile of some from a very inti-
mate one.* But the Game was at an End ;

G

his

* *Dear Sir,*

April 6th, 1725.

I Received your Letter, and am glad to find you in
Hopes, relating to your own Quiet. Your Friend
Mr. *Popham* and *Clem. Urry*, promises me to come to
my House the 17th, where we shall remember you in

our

his All was gone; and, being of Use no longer, if *Mr. Tarrant* the Sheriff, who happened to be a Whig, had no more Bowels than his Tory Acquaintance, he would have been torn to Pieces by his Friends; who might

our Mirth. Provided you do not sell the Estate immediately, you will bring in your Son to join with you, which I take Nothing but justice and reasonable. Your Compliance herein will very much oblige

Your most faithful

Friend and Servant,

R. Jackson.

Dear Sir,

Woodside, the 15th, 1725.

I Have the Favour of your Letter in answer to what I writ you about the Bond. *Mr. Hall* of *Clifford's-Inn* assures me, upon the Faith of a Christian, he never received it. (by the Bye he is a Whig) I wish you with all my Heart good Success out of these Affairs; for your *Friends* grow very impatient, and if I judge right, yourself very uneasy. And a Morsel with Content is better than *Mr. Walpole's* Riches, and your quiet Conscience will carry you with Peace to the Grave. [No Matter how soon now.] My Island Friends are not yet come, when they do, we will remember your good Health, and am

Dear Sir,

Your most affect. Friend,

And humble Servant,

R. Jackson.

Dear

might have acted more for the Benefit of his Family, and perhaps for their own Honour, had they employed such an Officer seven Years sooner.

In this deplorable Situation was he, when a Consultation was held at *Warnford*, in *Hampshire*; where, after five and twenty Years Experience of parliamentary Friendship, he said to his eldest Son, the Lawyer, and to an old Acquaintance who wished him well, that his Case was like that of one who had the *Pox*;* that is, he did not

G 2 know

Dear Sir,

I Have the Favour of yours, wherein you acquaint me, your Brother and you have executed an other Bond, in which you have done well. I wish you with all my Hart out of all your Troubles, that the Remainder of your Life, which I wish may be long, with Plenty and Quiett, being

Dear Sir,

Your most faithful

Humble Servant,

R. Jackson.

The 10th *June*, 1725,
drinking your Health.

* A Disease, that, in his Time a young Man would sink in at a Back-door, through a Passage, after it was dark, for the Cure of.

know whom to tell it to. The Truth is, he had not made a Friend, who could find a Remedy, in his Case, more than recover any of that which he had so freely parted with. And to make bad worse, this old Acquaintance, in his Dotage, upon a Question arising whether his whole Estate would pay his Debts, advised him to abscond, whilst his Son sold what he had; which might not have been amiss, as the Blood-hounds were out, had he contrived to make the most of it who gave the Advice; and who had once understood Buying and Selling; for the Others, ignorant of the Maxim, *there is no Friendship in Trade*, thought themselves happy in falling into the Hands of another Friend; who, as a Purchaser that better understood the Value of Money, bought as cheap as he could; and they had the Mortification to hear he should say, that he had purchased the finest Manor in that Country for 2000*l.* under Value. But it would break all Measures of Patience, even at this Distance of Time, to reflect on such Conduct; since that Gentleman would not have greatly

ex-

exceeded had he said 3000*l.* which would have paid all Debts, about which was a Clamour, and such Exclamations as, “ Who “ would have thought Mr. *Stephens* would “ have done so ? ” It would have saved him from perpetual Banishment ; and his Family from the Distress in which they lived ever after. It is true, however childishly sold, the Estate was fairly bought and paid for ; and the Purchaser had good Nature enough to allow the poor Man’s Wife 20*l.* *per Ann.* as long as she lived ; besides which, he did several good Offices for some of the younger Children ; of which they would not have stood in Need, had their worldly Wisdom been equal to that of his, with whom, for such his praise-worthy Benevolence, it is to be hoped the Estate will prosper the better in his Hands.

Sensible of his Error too late, he lay hid some Months from the Persecution of his Quondam Friends, at *Longworth*, in *Oxfordshire*, in so disconsolate a Way, as would have brought on him all the Terrors of Guilt, how innocently soever he fell into them, had
his

his Thoughts never soar'd above all sublunary Enjoyments; so great was his Sense of Shame, such his Compunction! as appears from what he wrote to his Son;* who had the Comfort of being Witness to the Mockery of his Tory Friends that were only drinking his Health; whilst Whigs more grateful and generous, brought his Father out of Darkness, and made him again useful to Mankind; after some Months Leisure, to reflect on his Neighbour's Observation; THAT PARTY WAS A CONTRIVANCE ONLY TO SERVE PRIVATE INTEREST.

The Person who distinguished himself above all others, was Mr. *Meure*, whom Mr.

Stephens

* Dear Son,

30 May, 1728.

Y^Esterday Evening I found an Opportunity of sending mine of the 28th, by which appears the Load of Infamy in its full Latitude, which I must bear as I can! All is done towards a full and ample Discovery of my most hidden Grievances, and with inexpressible Horror, I daily lament, when with Tears and Groans I acknowledge, my manifold Transgressions, before that great God who knows the Secrets of all Hearts; and who, by these heavy Afflictions I now undergo, I hope, will so teach me the Way to a better State, that I shall find Rest to my Soul at last; and I know of no farther Business I have in this World, but to endeavour to provide for the next.

Yours.

To *William Stephens*, junior, Esq;
in the *Inner-Temple*,

Stephens had once got out of bad Hands in a very expensive Law-suit;† besides which, he was, in some Degree, the Means of reconciling the *Newdigate* Family to him, into which he had married, not to the Liking of every one, though not against the Consent of the Father; for, having, about that Time, the Care of an Academy, only in the Illness of his own Father, he was represented to them as a School-master, and was therefore very justly thought beneath the Birth and Fortune of the Lady; though he kept a genteel Equipage, a splendid Table, the best Company, and loved her tenderly 'till her Death; which happened in about two Years after they came together; before which, his good Sense and polite Behaviour had

† *Dear Brother,*

Wednesday 23, 1721.

THANKS to your good Offices, I hope at last to get out of the Hands of the worst of Men, and will not fail to meet you at *Searle's* Coffee-house, over *Lincoln's-Inn* Gate; the Concern I am in for the Trouble I have given you, is not to be expressed. You are born to do good. I shall ever have a grateful Sense of your Friendship.

I am affectionately,

Entirely yours,

To *William Stephens, Esq;*

A. Meure.

had so recommended him, that it was thought the great Merit and exquisite Beauty of the Lady were as well bestowed there, as they would have been upon a Sage of the Law,* not quite so well polished; for his Pretensions, among others, having been *set forth*, he was cast in a Court of Females; because he had not some Qualities, of which Mr. *Meure* was possessed, and had discovered such, as the other had not.

The *Newdigates* having been mentioned more than once in the Course of this History, and the Behaviour of Mr. *Stephens's* Tory Acquaintance lamented; that they may not be blended, or that Family mistaken to have had the least Share in his Misfortunes, it must be observed, that on the Contrary, Sir *Roger*, being a Minor, and very young, when they were reduced to Poverty, which happened immediately after the Death of his Father, his Mother, the present Lady Dowager, contributed very liberally towards the Support of her Sister *Stephens* and Daughters, as an Example to others; not-

notwithstanding, as said before, the great Fortune paid both on her Marriage and after, to the amount of 7000*l.* in the whole, Besides which, Sir *Roger*, and his Lady, took to his House one of the Daughters, a helpless Widow, entertained her at their Table, treating her in all Respects as a Companion, as long as she lived, and took such Care of the Children, that they are well provided for.

Upon Mr. *Meure*'s hearing of his Friend's Distress in 1728, he went immediately from his House near *Soho*, in Quest of the Son, with whom he had but little Acquaintance; and, missing of him in the *Temple*, where he had Chambers, he followed and found him in *Westminster-Hall*; from whence he did not depart without expressing himself, as well in the genteelest, as the kindest Manner upon the Occasion; asking Leave to wait on him at a more leisure Time, in order to consult for the Relief of his Brother, as he never failed to call him; whose Distress affected him to that Degree, that he

H could

could not rest * without something done for him. But finding it extremely difficult to provide for a Man in such miserable Circumstances, that all Attempts here had failed, and being in the Direction of the *York-Buildings* Company, he bethought himself of an Employment for him in *Scotland*; which was no sooner proposed to the Court of Assistants, with his hearty Recommendation, than agreed to. And Mr. *Meure*, a Whig, unasked, wrote a Letter to the Purpose;

* *Dear Cousin,*

22 Aug. 1718.

NO near Relation can feel more Anxiety of Mind than I do, or conceive more Concern than myself after what you told me. Pray assure both my Brother and Sister, how sincerely I share in their Distress. I had the Misfortune to lose half my Estate in the Year 1720; yet I will do all I can for their Sake; and am very sincerely

Sir, your most humble Servant,

And affectionate Cousin,

Abr. Meure.

To *William Stephens, Esq; Junior.*

pose;* whilst the Son was soliciting those, in vain, who regarded not his Merit; which looked as if *their* PARTY WAS A CONTRIVANCE ONLY TO SERVE PRIVATE INTEREST.

C H A P.

* *Dear Cousin,*

7 Sept. 1728.

Y^Esterday I received a Letter from my Brother, and find he is quite overcome with his Misfortunes; but our Business is to comfort him, to raise his Courage, and take the most prudent and practicable Measures to extricate him out of the Difficulties he labours under. Nothing shall be wanting in me more than if he were my own Brother. I beg you will let him know, that he will be heartily welcome at my House; and should think he might set out early in the Morning, and be there at Night. If I could know when, I would be sure to be in the Way to receive him. You will also, Dear Cousin, meet with a hearty welcome there; that we may consult together, and find out proper Expedients for the Necessity of his Affairs, and those of his Family. Pray assure my Brother, that I am far from being less ready to serve him in his Adversity, but rather more desirous to do him, at this Time, all the Services I am capable of.

I am, Dear Cousin,

Your most humble Servant,

And affectionate Cousin,

Abr. Meure.

To *William Stephens, Esq; Junior.*

C H A P. IV.

*His Passage to, Employment in, and Return
from Scotland.*

BEING introduced to the Court of Directors, where Colonel *Horsey*, presiding as Governor, though bred a Whig, and born a Presbyterian, he found him a Man after his own Heart, in all Things but Politics, which Mr. *Stephens* had done with; and besides, they Both had more good Breeding and Sense, than to dislike each other upon that Account.

Nor did the Governor think the Company a little happy, in meeting with such a Man to send into the *Highlands*; as no Encouragement, which they could give, would tempt the Gentleman whom he was to succeed, or any other independent Man, to sit down there, who was so fit for a public Employment as Mr. *Stephens*; notwithstanding his being so little regarded by the Tories, insensible of the Value of him, or acting not upon the same Principle.

Being

Being appointed Agent for the Company's Affairs in the North of *Scotland*, and equipped accordingly, he was sent away, on Board a little wretched Coaster, in the Depth of a hard Winter, for *Edinburgh*, where he arrived in *February* 1729, after a tedious and very hazardous Passage of 24 Days: There his Letters of Recommendation introduced him to the best Company; and the Anti-Courtiers finding him out, he did not refrain from conversing with them in Turn; without giving Umbrage to his Masters, who, for the most Part, were Zealots for, or dependent on the Court. After a short Stay, he proceeded as before, for the North again; and the Rigour of the Weather not being abated, he went thro' much more Danger, as well as Fatigue, before he arrived at *Findhorn*; where, landing on the 28th of *March* 1729, he found some of the Company's Ships loading, and entered at once upon his Business, and the Day following he acquainted them by Letter, with what he had done.

From

From hence he travelled along the Coast to *Garmouth*, another of the Company's Ports, and meeting with Mr. *Strachey* at *Fochubers*, a Village in that Neighbourhood, had the first Pleasure of being acquainted with him; which was no small Advantage; for that Gentleman, who for a-while had the Charge of the *York-Buildings* Affairs there, and being universally esteemed, introduced him into the best Company again in the North; and giving the New-comer his Cue too, he quickly discovered how a great many Thousands had been squandered away.

In *April* 1729, he arrived at *Culnakyle*, where was the Company's chief Concern in those Parts, it being near the Woods; which, in the *Highland* Language, the Name signifies. It lies upon the Banks of the *Spey*, about 25 Miles from *Garmouth*, where that River disembogues, and near the Centre of the Royalty of the Laird of *Grant*, in *Strath* [the Vale] of *Spey*, extending upwards of 40 Miles from East to West, and 15 or 20 from North to South, most of which is within

within his Estate. This was formerly the Family-seat, and built in the Manner of that Country, on the Sides of a Quadrangle, called there a Close, all upon a Floor, with a Turf, cut square, and called *Fale*, for the Walls; and so covered with another Sort, cut flat, and called *Divet*, as to be warm and durable. But since the Death of the present Sir *Ludowick's* Grandfather, (the Family residing at *Castle Grant*, a large Stone House about four Miles distant) this old One was let to the *York-Buildings* Company; who, putting Pieces of Glas to the little Window-Lights, which had Boards for keeping out the Weather before, gave great Offence to some of the Neighbours, who thought the *English* might be content to live as their Chief had done; where, like other *Higbland* Houses, the best Apartment, still retaining the Name of the Ladies Room, with its curved Timbers and no Cieling to hide the Roof, as General *Wade* observed, resembled a Ship Keel uppermost.

In

In order to give some Idea of Mr. *Stephens's* Employment, it is fit to give also some Account of the Company's Undertakings; but their Rise, Progress and Fall, being well known, it will suffice, to speak only of what came under his Cognizance or Inspection. Having large Concerns in the North before the Year 1727, it was then represented to them, how beneficial a Trade might be carried on in the Fir-Timber of Sir *James* (the Laird) of *Grant's Woods*, in *Strath Spey*, which were about 24 Miles in Circumference, and said to contain Mafts sufficient for the whole Navy of *Great-Britain*; and being on the Banks of the *Spey*, with what Ease they might be floated down that River, carried again in Rafts round to *Findhorn*, and there shipt in a good Harbour, that of *Garmouth* being unsafe. In Consequence of which, the Company agreed with the Laird for 60,000 Trees standing, for which they were to pay 7000*l*. Besides this, there were large and expensive Iron-works undertaken, both Forges and Furnaces, at *Culnakyle* and elsewhere. Upon the whole,
were

were employed about 200 Workmen, exclusive of Officers, such as Surveyor of the Woods, Supervisor of the Works upon the Coast, Iron-masters, Store-keepers, Clerks, Overseers, &c. There were likewise 150 *English* Draught-horses sent, with Carriages and other Implements, from *London*, for hauling the Mafts out of the Woods, and doing what else was requisite in the carrying on of these great Affairs.

He had not been long arrived, before he found, that the building of a Harbour had been likewise projected, because that of *Findhorn*, having a Bar before it, was not altogether commodious, and the Navigation to it, with Mafts in a Raft, from *Garmouth*, was very hazardous. Again, the Number of Obstructions in the River were found to be equal to that of such Mafts in the Woods, and Saw-Mills were then erecting to convert them into Deal-boards; besides which, the Projectors were to seek for the proper Ore, of which the Iron was to be made: All which put him under some Difficulty in his

Correspondence with the Company ; for though there was a Foundation for carrying on both Timber and Iron-works to Advantage, after they had begun to cut up the mistaken Mafts; yet, their Credit being tender, it behoved him to be cautious of what he wrote, concerning wild Schemes, and that Oeconomy which had wasted so much Money; though he could put on a good Face in the Country, and silence that Impertinence which flows from Ignorance.

He was but coldly received by those whom he was sent to controul ; which they so ill could bear, that the inferior Officers were taught to question the Validity of his Orders, until the Approbation of the Others was first had, though he had a Power of Dismission : So little jealous, however, he was of his Honour, and backward in the Exercise of a discretionary Power, that not a Man of them lost his Place, notwithstanding some had been pointed out in *London* ; and among them One, who, though he had behaved worse than the Rest, yet he interceded for him unknown, when the Board had resolved
on

on his Discharge. By thus overcoming Evil with Good, he lived in Friendship with them, whilst they stood in proper Awe, and did their Duty.

He was not at a Loss neither how to behave to those in the Country with whom he had Dealings, from the highest to the lowest; as an Instance of the First, the Duke of *Gordon*, who was lately dead, having had some Concern with the great Men, who had like to have let him and the Company into a Secret, with the Harbour before-mentioned, besides other fine Things; and that in particular being dropt, after his Son, who was a Minor, had been at an Expence, in Consequence of his Father's Agreement with the Company; the Dutches, a Lady of a pretty high Spirit, tho' of celebrated Sense, was resolved to give them no Quarter; and accordingly wrote a very angry Letter,*

I 2 which

* S I R,

Gordon-Castle, June 2.

Y OUR most obliging Letter came safe to Hand, but till now had no Occasion * to return an Answer. Mr. *Wycherley* and I were much surprized at two Letters I had last Post from *London*, viz. Lord *Lion's* and Colonel *Horsley's*. Lord *Lion* very plainly and honestly

* In *Scotland* means Opportunity.

which he answered with great Respect; charging her Grace, at the same Time, with condemning them unheard.† And acquaint-
ing

nestly says, the Company are not to build a Harbour at any other Place than *Golochi*, but are not fully resolved to build one any where. Colonel *Horsey's* Letter is somewhat more reserved, and it seems they would impose longer on us; but——Trifling is at an End, I wish we had not been the Fools, upon such Faith, to have bought Land at two hundred Years Purchase,——My Son wants no Land in *Scotland*, especially at that Rate.

This of Course puts an End of any Thing further to be expected from this Family; and *Braco*, being a great and potent Man, may assist the Company with such Services as they may want. I own they might have chosen some other Persons to have bubbled; but regret this poor Country is so ill stated, as to have every good and laudable Undertaking mar'd by the base Contrivances of its own Natives.‡

As to yourself, shall with Pleasure do you any Service in my own, or Son's Power.

Your faithful Friend

H. Gordon,

To *William Stephens*, Esq;
at *Culnakyle*.

† *May it please your Grace,* *Culnakyle, June 4.*

I Had the Honour of your Grace's Letter, Yesterday in the Evening, wherein I find such Testimony of your condescending Goodness towards me, as I am incapable of expressing a due Sense of; much less to know wherein I merit it. At the same Time the Respectment which you are pleased to shew towards the
York-

‡ A Neighbour was suspected to be aiming at a Harbour elsewhere, but all was dropt.

York-Buildings Company, (whose Servant I am) must unavoidably give real Cause of Affliction, whilst I find myself rendered incapable of serving them, with that Pleasure which I had conceived under your Grace's Patronage.

It would be impertinent in me, Madam, to enter into any Argument, on the Reasons which have induced your Grace to take so sharp a Resolution; not knowing what has passed between your honourable Family and the Company; but if you had thought fit to indulge them yet so far, as to have admitted the Return of the Post, to see what they would have offered to your Consideration, I should have hoped for a good Issue; and I will not yet despair, but your Clemency will be such, as to allow them a Hearing, whenever they shall address your Grace on this unhappy Occasion; the Event of which I dare not presume to judge of; but am willing to hope the best.

In the mean Time as *Mr. Ranken* has signified to me your Commands, That none of the Company's Servants presume to lay any Timber upon the Ground belonging to your Family, I have sent Orders, that None for the future be laid there; but if your Grace will admit of those Trees already landed, to remain a very little while, till I know where to dispose of them, 'twill be a Mark that your former good Will towards the Company is not utterly extinct, and beyond Hopes of Recovery.

I assure your Grace, without Compliment, that the concluding Paragraph of your very obliging Letter, in which you are pleased to give me such Assurances of the Friendship of your Family, is sufficient to animate me with a Spirit always prompting to deserve as far as I am capable the Continuance of so great a Good to

Madam,

May it please your Grace,

Your most obliged, and most

Obedient, humble Servant,

Will. Stephens.

To her Grace the Dutchess of *Gordon*.

And

ing the Company with it, † they left it to him

And he wrote to the Company accordingly.

† *Gentlemen,*

Culnakyle, 7th of June, 1729,

THE Dutcheſs of *Gordon* is ſo far from relenting, that ſhe was pleaſed this Week to forbid your Servants landing any Timber, on the Ground belonging to that Family; and even required them to remove what was already landed; as Mr. *Ranken* adviſed me by Letter, Expreſs from *Fochubers*, with one incloſed to me from the Dutcheſs, complaiſant enough; but conceived otherwiſe in ſuch opprobrious Terms, with Regard to the Honour of the Company, that I cannot prevail with myſelf in ſending it to you, as I once intended; ſince what I wrote you, and ſent incloſed in my laſt, is ſufficient to ſhew the Rage her Grace is tranſported with.

I wrote her Grace back as full as I could in Compliment, and after telling her the Miſfortune I found myſelf under, in being rendered incapable of ſerving you under her Patronage, whiſt her Reſentment ran ſo high, I told her that my Orders were gone for Mr. *Ranken* to lay no more Timber upon their Ground; but that, if ſhe would allow what was already landed to continue there till I knew how to diſpoſe of it, it would be a Mark that her good Will towards the Company was not quite extinct. What Step to take, I am utterly at a Loſs to know, without your Advice and Direction.

Her Grace hints, that *Braco*, being a great and potent Man, may aſſiſt the Company with ſuch Services as they may want; but that I look on as a Sarcaſm; for he had actually given the Company to underſtand, that they muſt expect no Favour from him; whereupon, I once thought we were happy in the Place under the *Gordon* Family; but now we are ſawn betwixt two.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your, &c.

W, S.

To the Hon. the Governor and Court of Aſſiſtants of
the *York-Buildings* Company.

William Stephens, Esq; 71

him,|| who managed with that Address, that they were restored to Favour; and their Servant was never afterwards rebuked; except for not going often enough to *Gordon-Castle*, where he always met with a hearty Welcome,

In Answer to which they wrote.

I S I R,

London, 21st of June, 1729.

WE refer you to what is contained in our last Letter, relating to the Dutcheſs of *Gordon's* Behaviour towards the Company. We are well assured in our own Minds, there have been ſome Enemies interpoſing their ill Offices, by falſe Suggeſtions, which has occaſioned this Alteration. Had you ſeen her Grace's Letters to the Governor, it would ſatisfy you that ſome under-hand Arts and Tricks have been uſed, to bring Matters to this Paſs. But ſince it is ſo, and while this Diſpoſition continues in the Dutcheſs, we need not adviſe you to manage with Prudence, and uſe your beſt Endeavours to find out the Truth. In the mean Time, we ſhall leave every Thing to your Management, as you find beſt to do for the Company's Service, and judge moſt proper.

We are

Your moſt humble Servants,

Samuel Horſey, Governor.

William Corbett.

Francis Townley.

*To William Stephens, Esq;
at Culnakyle.*

come, after their Affairs were grown bad,* both in *Scotland* and *London*, and to the very last of his being in the Country.

And as for those of a lower Degree, who were not always quite so open in their Behaviour, his Description † of the deep Designs

* S I R,

AT the Time I had the Favour of your last obliging Letter, I was indisposed, which hindered me from making you then a Return.

As I have all imaginable Reason to be convinc'd of the Friendship you express for me and my Family, so I assure you I am very sensible of your Merit, and so far as I have Power, none will be more ready than I shall be on every Occasion to do you Service. Could any Thing give me a good Opinion of the *York-Buildings* Affairs, it would be their being in this Country under so deserving a Director as you are. None will be more welcome where I have a Concern, and I am,

Sir,

Your most oblig'd,

Gordon-Castle,
Jan. 26th.

Humble Servant,

H. Gordon.

† “ But now we are come to Work on the other Side of the *Stream*, up starts the Laird of *Knockando*, and says, we shall not meddle there; for turning the Course of Water on the opposite Side of the River will deprive him of his Salmon Fishery; which I understand he values at £. 20. Scots [33s. 4d. Sterling,] and fancy I shall bring him to make Professions how great a Friend he is to the Company; as it may be done partly with a Design that some Court must be paid him, in order to grant a Favor, or with a View of a Compliment, that is, something more than Words.”

signs which he discovered in One, may serve further to shew his Discernment, and that he did not despise small Things; and such an Invitation as he had from a Person of Fortune * may shew too, how much he was respected, at the same Time, and more especially as he was an honest, open-hearted

K

Gen-

* *Honoured Sir,*

THE good Account I have of your Merits and Affection to this Country, make me long for the Pleasure of your Acquaintance. I have been oftener than once necessarily diverted from my Inclinations to wait on you; and if your Goodness would gratify my Fondness, to allow me a Visit here, the Samen || would be most agreeable to M^r *Alpin*, who would value himself not a little upon the Occasion.

Sir, Please accept of the small Compliment † sent by the Bearer, as the little Testimony can at present be given of my Inclination. And till I have the Honour of your Acquaintance, I subscribe, with great Respect and Esteem,

Honoured Sir,

Your most

Tullochgreave,
Feb. 27th.

Obedient humble Servant,

P. Graht, alias M^r Alpin. ‡

To William Stephens, Esq;
at Culnakyle.

|| A Mark of Respect.

† A Present of a Buck.

‡ He pretended to have descended from an antient King of Scotland of that Name.

Gentleman who gave it; though blunt, and so singular in some Respects, that he might crack a Joke, or say what came uppermost without Offence. In a Visit to General *Wade*, his Compliments were pretty extraordinary at entering the Room, among a good Deal of Company, in his *Highland* Dress, when he accosted him thus.

“ R. Good Day to you, Generaal.

“ G. I am glad to see you, *Rothimurcus*.

“ R. What News the Day, Generaal.

“ G. None but what you see in the Papers.

“ R. No News of King *James* the Aighth now-a-days?”

which ended in the General's turning short, smiling and talking to some Body else.

Mr. *Stephens*, having rectified, as he could, what he thought amiss in the Company's Affairs under his Inspection, the Governor came to visit them, and so approved of what he had done, as to enlarge his Power, and fix him a Salary of 200*l.* per An. for himself and Clerk; and Plenty of good and proper Ore being found at last, there was

a fair Prospect of Success in both Wood and Iron-works, tho' the Mast-trade had failed; nor were the Thanks of the Company wanting for his Service, so long as they did well for themselves.

But this was only a Glare of Sun-shine once more in his Life; his Brother *Meure* was dead, and the Foundation of the Company's Ruin, in which these Things had a very small Share, was laid in *Change-Alley*, before they were projected; nor was the Mischief done by the Gentlemen at his Time in the Direction; who carried them on in the best Manner they could; but by their Predecessors, in jobbing the Stock of the Company; who, soon after Mr. *Stephens* came, begun to make such slender Remittances of Money, that it was with great Difficulty he could support their Credit in the Country; notwithstanding the Plank and Deal-board-trade was so established as to make them very considerable Returns, and the Iron had bid fair to be much greater. But the Proprietors, instead of taking salutary

Measures, their Affairs being not irretrievable, squabbled; till a Set of that Sort of Men among them, who knew how to make an Advantage of People in Trouble, brought on a Parliamentary Enquiry, and all Things into Confusion; but nestling themselves into the Direction, for which they were unfit; and out of which, they had jostled those of Worth, every Way equal to the Emergency of the Company's Affairs, which they had at Heart,

During these Transactions in *London*, their Works were upon the Decline, it may be imagined, in the North; tho' Mr. *Stephens* kept Things together with the Workmen, whilst, to the Amazement of the Country, there were two Years Arrears due to them; for which *Forbes* of *Culloden*, Colonel *Grant* of *Ballendalloch*, and others, called him the Earl of *Marr*, who could keep an Army together without Pay.

But not a Passage in his Life deserves Notice more than the modest Request, which his old *Tory Friends* had the Conscience to make

make about this Time; it being only to ride 600 Miles from *Culnakyle* to the Isle of *Wight*, to serve their Turn, still once more, at an Election; for which they very generously sent him as much Money as would bear his Expences *thither*, and their Promise of a Protection. So he was to quit a truly honest and large Concern, in which he was so deeply engaged, to do a Piece of Service for those, who had discovered no Averſion to the Saying of; “ *I have this,* “ and *will* thank you for the *next*, Favour;” who had used him so well before; and would most certainly have left him to go back to *Culnakyle*; as his Son had been, about the same Time, to go to *London*; whom one of them put to the Blush, in a large Company, by saying, “ He had a Horse “ of mine that carried him to the Election, “ I don’t know how he got back.”

When Mr. *Stephens* received the Letter to ask the Journey, he almost lost his Patience; and though he forbore Resentment, it was not without some Emotion, as may be
seen

seen by what he wrote * soon after to his Son; who having Nothing but his Father's Virtues to recommend him, was forgot by the Tories at the Election of Members, which happened at *Southampton*, not very long after this, and other signal Instances of their Modesty and Gratitude; and was employed on

* *Dear Son,*

Culnakyle 23 Sept. 1732.

I Imagine the Reasons I gave for not answering the Expectations of my Friends appear in so strong a Light, that you cannot but justify me, in your own Judgment. The same Principles which carried me such a Length (even to Ruin) still actuate me, and I think I shall persevere in them to the last; tho' cruel Treatment might have induced another Man to shew some Requital. As for the corrupt Brood,† e'en let them enjoy the Fruits of their Labours as they please: They have been long since lost in my Thoughts. Too many and too heavy (God knows) are the Offences I must plead guilty to, which I can never hope to atone for in this Life; or make due Recompence to those I have injured; which is more than enough for an unhappy Man to bear in Mind, and bitterly bewail to the Day of my Death.

Allow me thus to ease my Mind, oppressed at this Instant with an uncommon Weight of Grief; for Nature will prevail; and at present I must stop.—I must conclude in haste at last,

Your very affectionate Father,

Will. Stephens.

To *William Stephens, Junior, Esq;*

† Whether this means a Family or Corporation is uncertain.

on the other Side, by Mr. *Williams*, the Town-clerk of *Newport*, who brought him more Briefs at the Affizes, and Cases in the Country as well as Town, than all the Tories of the County; which alter'd not his Principle, tho' the Lawyer's Shop is open.

In the Situation of the *York-Buildings* Company's Affairs before-mentioned, a Direction, consisting of a few subtle Ones, with a weak Brother in the Chair, made short Work of it. In their first Letter to Mr. *Stephens*, they order'd him to be *more concise in his, and not to interrupt Mr. Baylies** in any Contract he may make, or the Application of Money; which, it may be presumed, was meant as a Reward for his Treachery to those in the former Direction, who could not trust him without such a Check. But the next, the most, and last important Service they did at *Culnakyle*, was sending One *Abell*, a chosen One, to inspect their Affairs there, as also their Estates, and other Works in the North. This Gentleman being the only Man of Sense among the Court of Assistants,

* Master of the Iron-works.

sistants, and attended by Mr. *Place*, whom the late Directors had discarded, and was also to be *provided for*, (as Mr. *Baylies* had been, and for the same Reasons,) 'tis fit that something more than Mr. *Abell's* Name should go to Posterity; as it did in a Letter,* wrote about that Time, by Mr. *Stephens* to his Son in *London*.

Mr. *Abell* had not been long at *Culnakyle*, before the Workmen presented themselves in a Body, to let him know they could work no longer without Pay; when, in the Fright which he took at an Army of *Higblanders*, he charged Mr. *Stephens* with having combined with them; because he *had* kept them to it so long without Money, and would not engage

* “The Character of Mr. *Abell* is fitter for a more able Pen to undertake; for I must own, to me, he appears a perfect *Ænigma*; wherein all I could discover was, that he is a Deist, whom neither the *Old* or *New Testament* pleases, exploding the Eternity of Hell-Torments in the latter, and calling the *Mosaical* Institution *Blasphemy*, which describes God to be an angry and jealous God; but, laying aside such of his Attributes as he does not like, he allows of his Goodness and Mercy. Thus stock'd with Religion, he is *ad omnia paratus*, and what may not be expected from him?”

engage farther against common Honesty, to betray an innocent People, who placed a Confidence in him, for the Sake of giving a few *Change-Alley-Men* a little Credit, which themselves were unable to procure. However this fell heavy upon him; for though Mr. *Abell* was afraid to turn him out of his Office, lest the Country should rise, he left no Method untried to make him uneasy. He then desired an honourable Dismission, and received this *Jesuitical* Answer, "You know, Sir, whether you can serve the Company with Honour;" and his Accounts, which, at his own Request, had been always laid before them once a Month, undergoing a strict Scrutiny, and not an Article disputed of 8000*l.* and upwards disbursed, it was expected they would have been passed; but that was declined, with a Promise to "report them to the Gentlemen in *London*, who are Men of Honour;" and so, like himself, they turned out.

Thus was he left, and with this Insolence did he bear, when, with the injured Work-

L

men

men, it was in his Power to have given Mr. *Abell* a great deal of Trouble; but after his Escape, the Fury of the People had like to have burst on Mr. *Stephens*, whose House being surrounded, they charged him with having deceived them. When going forth, he answered with Intrepidity, and confessed, “They might have Reason to think so; but
“as they knew how poorly he had lived,
“if any of them would inspect his Accounts, by which they would find, every
“Servant under him had been paid preferable to himself, they would entertain a
“better Opinion of him;” telling them, “That Clamour was productive of Confusion, which would deprive them of all
“Hopes of Redress;” to which he added, “That he would not leave the Country,
“without parting among them what was in
“his Possession,” with which they were content, though the poor Men lost by the Goods, which were sold again by them, at 25 or 30 per Cent. Discount.

But

But they complied the more readily, upon seeing the Company's Effects there disposed of, without any positive Assurance of Payment from them, or Prospect of receiving Money due in the Country; that being arrested by other Creditors, which would have gone a great Way towards paying the poor People; who had earned it by the Sweat of their Brow, in manufacturing the very Goods sold for that Money.

The Works being at a Stand before, for want of their Horses, which were sold at Auction, to pay for the Provender they had eaten, and for which they had been pawned; the next Thing he was Witness to, was the Seizure of all the Effects remaining in his Hands, even to the very Furniture of the Hut that gave him Shelter; and when he had no Prospect of any Kind in that Country, which he would have gladly got out of, he passionately uttered these Words of the Psalmist, "*Wo is me, who am constrained to dwell with Mesech and to have my Habitation among the Tents of Kedar!*"

The Reformers in *London*, having neither Heads nor Hearts to obtain Weight or Credit, the Company's Affairs grew every Day worse there likewise; until, with their Troubles in *Westminster-Hall* and *Parliament*, which were retaliated upon these Directors, for Mal-administration *indeed*, they fell quite to Pieces; the new Governor not continuing so long in this exalted Station, as in that, where,† hearing Mr. *Erle* make it extremely clear, that he was too much a Fool to be guilty of some Knavery laid to his Charge; says he, “ I protest I never heard Mr. *Erle* speak so well in my Life.”

But before there came a new Set of Managers, there being often a Change of Ministry, Mr. *Baylies* the favourite Agent, being caught, after about six Months hectoring, swelling, and pilfering, he took a sudden Flight, with which Mr. *Stephens* acquainted * the Board, who ordered him there-

† The House of Commons.

Gentlemen,

Culnakyle, 16th March, 1734.

AS I have never failed to acquaint you with whatever you ought to know, Mr. *Baylies* went hence so early on *Sunday* Morning, that he was seen a good Length in his Way for *London*, before Sun-rising.

When

When I consider, he spent *Saturday* Evening with me, and returned Home not till the usual Hour of Rest, without giving me the least Notice of his Intention, though he took Horse not many Hours after; I cannot help thinking Something extraordinary is couch'd under such a Secret; and when I see Mystery every Day so much abounding, 'tis impossible but some Jealousies must arise, which are sooner conceived than expressed. My Continuance may be deemed a Grievance, which he would wish to be eased of; and whenever it shall be your Pleasure to invest him with the sole Power of an Agent here, I shall be content. Though no Discord has arisen betwixt us; yet neither has there ever been such a Concurrence of Sentiments, as to create any Uneasiness at two such Friends parting.

During the late Perturbations here, I still touched tenderly on that Part; being very cautious lest I should injure an innocent Man; but I am sorry now that a late Instance has too plainly shewn some clandestine Practices; for the Day after Mr. *Baylies* went hence, *Dalrachmy*, having private Information of a large Parcel of Iron carried secretly from the Forge, and concealed in the House of one of your Saw-Millers, went by Authority, and there he found it hid very artfully, which he laid Hands on. They made Search again Yesterday, and found between six and seven Tons more. How far such Night-work and Concealment may be thought criminal, you are the proper Judges.

I have such Informations frequently brought me, as would be astonishing; but, willing to think they partly arise from Prejudice, in some under Mr. *Baylies*, now his Back is turned, I lay them not to his Charge; tho' I cannot forget them; and no Doubt Enquiry will be made into all that is done here.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient

Humble Servant,

Will. Stephens.

To the Hon. the Governor and Court of Assistants of
the *York-Buildings* Company.

Sir,

thereupon, † to take the Iron-works under his Care, which was of little Use then; for whilst they were making Havock in *London*, there

† *SIR, York-Buildings-House, March 30, 1734.*

I Am by order of the Governor and Court of Assistants to give you their Thanks for your open and candid Account of Mr. *Baylies* Behaviour, and whatever further Accounts and Informations you may receive of Mismanagements, you may depend on their meeting with due Acknowledgment from the Court, and that *no Use will be made thereof to your Prejudice.* [What need was there of such an Assurance?]

You are desired to take all the Company's Effects, whatsoever you can get, into your Possession, and endeavour to detect and recover all Embezzlements and Mal-practices, which have been carried on.

Mr. *Baylies* had Orders to send fifty Tons of Iron to *London* a long Time since, which he gave Hopes soon to effect, but is far from giving that Satisfaction, and has not answered the Expectations that were conceived of him, and it is to be feared that this will be of infinite Prejudice to the Company's Affairs.

As you can have no regular Instructions how to proceed in every Thing at present, you are desired to manage Matters as prudently as you can.

By order of the Gov. and Court of Assistants,

I am, Sir,

Your most humble Servant,

Richard Birch,

To *William Stephens, Esq;*
at *Calnakyle.*

In this Answer, compared with their Letter desiring him to be more concise, they make a pretty Figure.

there was such Scrambling in the Country, that he had not been long in Possession before they were likewise seized. Soon after which he received a kind Letter from a sincere Friend, who went from *London* to *Edinburgh* to adjudicate for himself and others, which Mr. *Stephens* could not do, his Accounts having not been passed; and seeing that all Hopes of common Justice from the Board were at an End, had Reason to fear himself again in a lost, as he was in a deplorable, Condition. And his last Resort was to those, who, having made Seizures of all remaining, were in full Possession; and, being the only Obstacle to their quiet Enjoyment, for the Sake of which, and to get rid of the last of the *York-Buildings*, they disgorged as much as would decently carry him off.

Notwithstanding he had never personally engaged for Payment of any Debt, which he had contracted in Behalf of the Company, and paid his own private Debts; yet, being sensible that, as Things turned out, he had made too much Use of very great Credit

dit which had been given him in the Country, he dreaded a People, who, exasperated at their Loss, might take their Revenge of him, for Injuries done them by others; which put him upon a Sort of Stratagem to get away in Safety after all. Being engaged in a Law-suit for the Company, and very unexpectedly defeated by a Decrete against him in an inferior Court at *Elgin*, he appealed to the Lords of Session; whom he might fairly say, as was given out, he was to attend at *Edinburgh*. But how to bring two Things to bear, so diametrically opposite, as to leave any Sort of Assurance of his Return, with a Multitude of Creditors, who looked on him as their forlorn Hope; and to assure those who wanted him gone, that it was not intended, put him under some Difficulty; for which he thought of this Expedient, to leave with the latter the Bulk of what he had, to be sent after him; particularly his Papers, Books of Accounts, &c. excepting some of the most valuable, which he took in his Cloak-bag, which gave the others Room to expect his Return. Matters being

being

being thus settled, and having some of those in Power to escort him to the Limits of *Strath Spey*; he took a final Leave thereof on *Sunday* the 19th of *January*, 1735; about Nine in the Morning, not without a friendly parting with those, who too much bewailed their Loss to have hurt him, as by their Tears was manifest.

Having never failed on his Part in corresponding with the Company, he acquainted them with his intended Journey to *Edinburgh*; where, being well received by his Acquaintance, he spent a few Weeks in Festivity, and such Joy as he was capable of; whilst he waited the Issue of the Law-suit, and the Company's Orders too, till he despaired of receiving any; when he proceeded on his melancholy Journey, arriving in *London*, *April* 5, 1735. There, in Parliament, one Time more and the last, he found the Court of Assistants so much in Need of Mr. *Erle's* Help again, that they could not find Time to pass an Agent's Accounts; and that he must lose, as he did, very near 400*l.* due for Salary; by a Set of Men, fit only to rend

and M Measures,

Measures, for which they had no Remedy; and to give the finishing Blow to a Capital of One Million, Two Hundred Thousand Pounds, whose PARTY WAS A CONTRIVANCE ONLY TO SERVE PRIVATE INTEREST.



CHAP. V.

Distress'd in England, he goes a Voyage to America.

THE little being spent, which he had so luckily gotten, as he once thought, to carry him from *Scotland* to *London*, and his Family in almost as much Distress too as he had fled from, according to his own Words, he “became a Burthen to those whom he ought to support.” Therefore, unable to live in *London*, with their Assistance only, the next Scene of Misery was at *Penrith* in *Cumberland*; where he was again buried for some Months, unacquainted with every Body in that Neighbourhood, except *Mr. Hill*, a Clergyman, who having been his

his Son's Tutor at *Oxford*, provided the best Place he could for such a poor Man; who had not Friends that could keep him from Want, until Colonel *Horsely*, a Sufferer likewise in the *York-Buildings*, made him an Offer of going to *South-Carolina*, to survey a Barony * of Land, for which he had a Grant; when, the third Time in Life, Mr. *Stephens* thought that he had discover'd some Rays of Light; for as they esteemed each other, and the Colonel was in Expectation of going out Governor of that Province, he thought very justly, that he might rely on him; and the more readily embraced the Opportunity of transporting himself to the Plantations, from a fond Imagination of making such Improvements, as might enable him to provide, at least, for some of his younger Children; especially as good Share of the Land was offer'd him, upon which *Europeans* are apt to set too great a Value, before they know any Thing either of that, or the Country in which it lies.

M 2

But,

* 10,000 Acres.

But before he embarked, he had the Mortification to hear his eldest Son, who was bred to the Law, set a Resolution to change his Profession; which occasioned a melancholy parting, as, till then, Mr. Stephens had conceived some Hopes that, thro' him, the Family might still have a Being; and could therefore scarce support the Thoughts of his Retirement to a Curacy which he had undertaken in *Somersetshire*; whilst he was going himself, to take Refuge in the *Wilds* of *America*, at the End of eight Years Exile.

Upon his Arrival at *Charles-Town*, the Letters he carried were a Means of his being introduced to those of the greatest Consequence there, who behaved very courteously to him. And in his Way to the Land which he was sent to, upon the Banks of the *River Savannah*, which gives Name to that Town in *Georgia*, and divides the two Colonies, he had the Fortune to get acquainted with Mr. *Oglethorpe*; who, after the Survey was finished, had the Condescension to permit his Return to *England* on Board the same Ship with himself. For so great an Honour,

he

he could do no less than testify, to a Board of Trustees, at their Office in *Dirty-Lane*, That he had been in *Georgia*, and that some of the People did cultivate Land upon which they were settled, which removed the Doubts of some, who had questioned the Existence of the Place.

His sanguine Friend *Horsey*, at the same Time that he found Mr. *Stephens* had executed his Commission with Punctuality, found too, that he had been as much imposed upon by Projectors in *American Land*, as he had been by those of *Scotch Mafts*; but being of a grateful and generous Temper, most heartily recommended his Friend *Stephens*, who had acquitted himself well upon every Occasion, to the Trustees for *Georgia*, with whom he found Favour, Mr. *Ogletborpe*, Mr. *Martyn* their Secretary, and Mr. *Verleſt* their Accomptant, and some others in the Secret, excepted. When he was introduced to the Board, he was permitted to Sit; but not before a Motion was made for Leave; for such State did they take upon them, and so great was their Solemnity, that they appeared all
to

to be as serious as Mr. *Coram*; who, with Lord *Egmont* and Mr. *Sloper*, was not only fond of sending out Mr. *Stephens*, but for investing him with Power; which so alarmed the Cabal, that, to divert an Intention of sending him out, which they could not defeat, they contrived to get him, or, more properly, to make him a *Post*, under the specious Title of Secretary for their Affairs in *Georgia*. Having so far succeeded, their next Business was to keep *him down*, whom they could not keep *out*; to effect which Mr. *Oglethorpe* opposed the giving Salaries for the Future to any of their Servants, except those two very useful ones before-mentioned, and their Clerks; for that Land in *Georgia*, increasing in Value, a Tract of it, in Extent according to the Importance of the Service, would be more advantageous; especially, if, with a Grant of it, a further Bounty was given, of a proportionable Number of Servants, with a Year's Provisions, Axes to cut down the Trees, and manufacture the Timber of very great Value, and Hoes to cultivate and plant the Land; the Produce of
which

which would be worth more than any Salary they could give out of the Money granted by Parliament to settle the Colony, by sending over People, and promoting of Cultivation. But One present, who was going for *Georgia*, innocently asking, Where was the Market for so much Timber, and what Produce had been raised, he was never forgiven.

This was a bitter Pill, which Mr. *Stephens* was forced to swallow, or fall into the Hands of a malicious Creditor, who pursued him so closely, as to point him out to an Officer, with whom he went for that Purpose; which, though it happened in a privileged Place, quickly made Terms for him, with those against whom he was unable to contend; for the *Cabal*, who carried all before them, had an Interest in what they were doing, and were the more assiduous in distressing him; which was soon done, when they too well knew he had no Choice to make, or Friend to help him; Colonel *Horsely* being too much involved in the *York-Buildings* Affairs to give that Assistance his
good

good Will inclined him to; whilst many of Mr. *Stephens's* supposed Friends, then alive, were still unmindful of him, and the Distresses into which he had brought his Family, in Confidence they had meant as he did; infomuch that, a truly honourable Person, now, this Day, in eminent Station, who was almost a Stranger, and under no Sort of Obligation to any of them, was so touched with their Case, as some Time after, to write a kind Letter,* which alone would have con-

* *Dear Sir,*

July 1.

I Had sooner returned my Thanks for your last, but have been confined to my Bed, by a Fever; and much shocked with the melancholy and unexpected News of the Death of my Sister. I shall go into *Staffordshire* to Lord ———, but look upon my Pleasure this Summer, as at an End.

I believe you have often heard me say that Patrons are mighty apt to be engaged, and always extremely reserved on that Head. You have heard me mention, more than once, that I thought it monstrous that a Set of People, in whose Cause you and your Family have suffered so much, should not make your Interests their particular Care. This should be a favourite Point with them; but instead of that, as soon as their Turn is serv'd, no matter at whose Expence, they can be serv'd no longer, are very sorry, but slip their Necks out of the Collar as fast as they can. This is the harder Case, as the Cause and Foundation, of all your Misfortunes, is a fatal Objection to any Recommendations among those who do not use to desert

convinced both him and his Son, who then knew to their Cost, That PARTY WAS A CONTRIVANCE ONLY TO SERVE PRIVATE INTEREST.

N C H A P.

desert their Friends so. I shall soon get a Conference with *Shippen*,* when I will talk roundly to him on this Head; and if I can once make him espouse the Matter zealously, he has great Influence upon many People: I shall likewise spirit up *Sir Walter Bagot*, whom it would well become, both as a Relation, and as he has great Interest with the same Party.

I shall likewise have an Eye at the same Time to any other, being,

Dear Sir,

Your affectionate, and

Faithful, humble Servant,

To the Rev. Doctor Stephens,
at Cleve, in Somersetshire.

* See Fol. 44.

C H A P. VI.

*Takes a final Leave of his native Country;
 departs a second Time for America; and
 lives in Penury sixteen Years in Georgia,
 where he died.*

IN Despair of any Thing to support him in England, and of almost any Good in this Life, he prepared for the last unhappy Scene of it, which was allotted him in Georgia: But first he accompanied his Son to take Horse in Hyde-Park; who came from his Curacy in Somersetshire, on Purpose to see for the last Time his very unhappy, but more unfortunate aged Father; who refraining till almost out of Sight, then burst into a Flood of Tears, and cried; “ Oh my
 “ Son! my Wife! my Children!——hard
 “ is my Lot!——But——the Will of him
 “ be done, who is infinitely more merciful
 “ than we are miserable.”

When he took Leave of the Trustees, those who meant well, being sensible that their Design of sending him was defeated, comforted themselves, however, with the
 Hopes

Hopes of a true Account of Things, which they never had received; and therefore that Task was laid upon him, before he embarked at *Gravesend* in *August* 1737, arriving in *Georgia* the *November* following; where the People were glad to see him come back in an Office of seeming Importance; whilst the whole Colony was in a Flame, with the Proceedings of those whom Mr. *Oglethorpe* had left, to carry into Execution such Laws and Orders, as the *Cabal* had procured and contrived, to ruin some, and distress the whole. Nor did Mr. *Wesley* contribute a little to blow the Coals, before he was drove out of the Colony, for refusing the Sacrament to a prudent young Woman, who at her Husband's Request, had refrained from going to the Nightly Meetings of his Family of Love. And Mr. *Stephens's* Return was the more pleasing, as he had declared against some Fundamental Errors, or worse, when there before; which gave them Hopes that, by his Means, their Grievances would be redressed. But they were not a little disappointed, when he acquainted them, that he had no Power

over any Person, or to alter any Thing; which the Trustees were in no Disposition for neither. Then they drew up Petitions and Remonstrances, setting forth their Complaints, which they desired him to authenticate and transmit to the Trustees; to which he answered, "Gentlemen, you quite mistake my
" Employment, which does not give me
" Power even to do that." And, pointing to the Hut in which he was and dwelt, says he "There is a Secretary with an Office,
" and there is a Secretary without an Office
" — My Business is to write of Things
" as they occur; and the Trustees will do as
" they think fit." Which they so well understood, as to say among themselves afterwards, that he was honest in declaring himself turned Informer, and lived always in good Neighbourhood with him; except for a short Time, when the People most hated the Trustees, of Course, they took a Dislike to him, and all that belonged to them; and not without Reason.

Until Mr. Oglethorpe, with his Mermedons, supported by the Trustees, had driven
ven

ven the People almost to Desparation, he not only managed so, as to steer clear of the jealous Coast of the ambitious General, lest he should be dashed upon the Rocks of his Revenge; but so as to inform the Trustees, had they not been hood-winked, without keeping private Correspondence with any of them, or breaking a Neutrality with the People. And the sufficiency of his Informations, or of his answering, so far as could be expected, the End of his Appointment, is not to be questioned; as some Encomiums were made by Mr. *Sloper* and others, upon his Judgment and Accuracy, in such an Account of Things as convinced not him alone, that all the Complaints from *Georgia*, were not without Foundation; and, it being pretended by some present, that they did not know whom to trust, " Good God, says Mr. *Sloper*, why don't you give this Man Power? Can you see these Abilities in him, and employ him only as a Journalist, whilst the People are harrassed by those unworthy of so mean an Office under him?"

The

The very Shadow of Liberty having fled before the General and his Troops, upon their Arrival in *Georgia*; where the Sufferings of the Inhabitants were the more grievous, as their Complaints to the Trustees had always recoiled upon themselves, till they were so echo'd throughout the Kingdom, that something, in Appearance of new Measures, was now projected. And who so fit for a Stalking-horse, as one that had gone well, if they could bring him to their Pace? And Mr. *Stephens* acquainting his Masters that the little Stock, which they had allowed, was exhausted in Improvements on the Land granted him, which had made but a small Return; and that if they did not assist him further, he must starve; at the End of two Years, he had accordingly about 100 *l.* more allowed him. A Change of Ministry too, in *Georgia*, being contrived to amuse the Publick, a Blacksmith for a second Rate, and a *Newgate*-solicitor for Premiere, were at this Time removed; and their high Offices succeeded to, by an illiterate Taylor, and one *Jones*, who had been Night-Constable of *Holbourne*, or St.

Giles's,

Giles's, and once belonged to a Society, for Reformation of Manners, of infamous Memory; and, that it might carry the better Face with it, *Mr. Stephens* was to act in Conjunction with these in the Issues of Money, and — what else, was never understood; no, not by those who gave him his Instructions. He had the Reputation, however, of setting his Hand to such Orders as *Mr. Jones* approved of, 'till the People were quite tired with such a Farce; for instead of his being a Check upon iniquitous *Jones*, he was a stumbling Block to the other; who, by his means, can scarce be said to have done a good Thing, so long as the old carved Post remained in the Colony; for such was the Figure of the Man, with a puritanical Look,* and not a

Savannah, 20 March, 1740.
JONES is the same R—— he was when you left him, as far as he can; for he designs Good to no Man, except those of his own Stamp (*Whitfield's* Crew and the holy Sisters, &c.) and even they can hardly trust him: Nay, even the General himself lately got him to *Frederica*, and there fell heavily upon him; telling him that his insolent, haughty Behaviour, had driven People away.

To Mr.

I am,

Your, &c.

Will. Stephens:

bad Feature in his Face; which will admit of an Excuse for Reflections on the Person of one, whose Countenance was a very imperfect Index of a much worse Heart, which he had, if Villainy proceeds from a bad one.

It being Mr. *Stephens's* Misfortune to appear as a principal Actor after the Institution of this new Mock-magistracy, which was looked upon as an Insult upon the People, who held them in Derision, it is necessary to give some Account of their Proceedings, the better to judge of his Behaviour. The next Step was to draw up Complaints against the Trustees, for whom the principal Inhabitants had little more Respect, than for the General, and his Vessels of Wrath; who, with the Help of his Troops had driven away many of them; but those remaining thought they had a favourable Opportunity of approaching their Sovereign with a Petition; as *Hector Berenger Beaufaine*, Esq; was going from *Georgia* to *London*; and they had been told, that he stood in some Degree of Relation to her late Majesty. Accordingly they committed

mitted one to his Charge, with proper Vouchers and a Testimonial, with the Solemnity of the Province Seal, &c. but they never heard of it after; not even when he return'd, within a few Months, Collector of the Customs in *Charles-Town*, a Place said to be worth 4 or 500 *l. per An.* though a Person of Substance, removed thither from *Georgia*, denied him his Vote, until he cleared up the Affair; at the Time he was elected a Representative of that Town, in the general Assembly of the Province, where he is now one of the Honourable Council.

But before this Gentleman's Return, the People were enraged to that Degree, that they publicly exclaimed against the Trustees, then become as odious as their Magistrates were contemptible; therefore to get rid of them, if possible, they drew up a Complaint against them, with very short, tho' full Instructions; giving a Power for the Person employ'd, to apply for Redress of Grievances, as he should think fit; *Application to the Trustees only excepted.* This being signed by 130 or more of the principal

Freeholders, the General and his Magistrates, with about twenty other Place-men, were not wanting to furnish their Party in *London* with such an attested State of the Colony, and the Seal affix'd, (which was now denied the others,) as they knew how to make proper Use of; which had so little Effect however upon those among the Trustees who meant well, that it was put to the Vote whether they should not resign their Trust; and it being carried in the Negative, Mr. *Sloper*, and Mr. *Coram* who first projected the Colony, resigned in Form, at the same Time that others declined to act.

A Petition being presented to the House of Commons, the Honourable *Edward Digby*, Esq; and other Trustees, were Champions for their Body corporate; but their Eloquence not inducing the House to believe the Petitioner an Impostor, they neither sent him to *Newgate*, nor rejected his Petition; which were both aimed at. Ten or twelve of his Witnesses proved, that the Trustees had made Laws inconsistent with the Freedom of *British* Subjects; supported those, who

who went beyond such Laws, in Oppression; and spent the Money, granted for the Use and Benefit of the Colony, to very little Purpose.

On the other Hand, it was proved, That the Rivers were navigable, *ergo*—had Water in them; That Trees were growing in the Woods, *ergo*—Soil fertile; That, in the Lat. 31 Deg. N. the Heat of the Weather was sometimes excessive, *ergo*——Climate temperate; That at others it was extremely wet, *ergo*—Country healthy; That some of the poor Settlers had contributed their last Half-Crown in making Complaints, *ergo*——wealthy; And for a Clincher, a mighty famous Pleader* advanced, in behalf of the Trustees his Clients, That *Georgia* was not intended to be made a rich Colony, *ergo*——People happy; though not wise. The Coherence of all which, and more, as much to the Purpose, clearly disproving the three Points above-mentioned, upon which the Petitioner had rested his Evidence, it only remained to white-wash the Trustees;

O 2

which

Mr. Murray.

which being a little difficult, he was made to look black for their Sake.

And, not to brand such an Offender without Cause, his Petition was therefore voted *to contain false, scandalous, and malicious Charges, tending to asperse the Characters of the Trustees*; whose Petition before, and Motion after, for Money, was rejected in the very same Sessions, because what had been granted was misapplied; which proved the House to be *mutable in Opinion*, as Mr. Stephens observed in a Letter at that Time.

The Trustees being both Judge and Party, by whom the Petitioner's Council were entertained, after the Business of the Day was over; and the Petitioner being scarce able to purchase a Supper, he humoured the House of Commons, by tamely submitting to so just a Censure; and gave up a Cause, for which he was condemned by some, who grudged to be at any Expence about it. Since which he has deservedly lived in such Disgrace, as, for his Temerity, in exposing Men of Honour, by Men of Honour he was doom'd to. †

As

† Be it known, HE stands a Rogue upon Record.

As to Mr. *Stephens*, he was one of those, who set their Hands to such a State of the Colony, as represented it in the best Light; saying as much of the Improvements which had been made, as they would bear: By doing of this, he lost the Affections of the People, to that Degree, that they treated Him with Scurrility, tho' once respected above all others; which the old Man peevishly resented, as his Love of Order never could bear with popular Clamour, especially when it came to an Outrage that throws off Decency; and, not making Allowance sufficient for Provocations given, represented them as turbulent and ungovernable, descending to the Faults of particular Persons; in which he might think himself right, as he had himself been ever obedient to Government, and never a Friend more to the vicious than the licentious. Besides which he held sacred every Place of Trust; and therefore always declared off, when he knew of any Thing carrying on against the Trustees, in whose Service he was; as otherwise, upon a very particular Occasion, and at so critical a Juncture,

Juncture, he might have given them a fatal Blow; had he joined with the People, against those who had broke their Agreement with him, and made an ill Use of his Name, put to that Paper drawn up like an Extraordinary G——tte, neither exceeding or revealing the Truth; which last however he did in his Letters to the Trustees, who were very flow in understanding such Things as made against them.

He likewise made an Apology * for what he had done, to the Person in *London*, employed

Savannah, 31 Dec. 1740.

* IT is most probable that you may expect something particular from me in Return to those Papers you sent: But when I look into them, Confusion comes upon me; and the Task you have undertaken amazes me. The Trustees write me, that those Observations, on the State of the Colony were put by you into Mr. *Bramston's* Hands, [*called by his Friends, Honest Tom Bramston, a Tory, who carried it to the Trustees,*] and that your concerning yourself farther imprudently, occasioned divers severe Reflections on the Trust.

Is it fit for me to enter the Lists and take up Weapons against them? Surely Honour forbids it; and the religious Tie of an Oath to serve them faithfully, is too sacred to be wilfully broken. This, 'tis confessed, you are free from; and who then shall call you to Account? Far be it from me to entertain any the least Thought of your acting on any other Principles (in
Publick

ployed by the People, to remonstrate their Grievances too heavy to bear ; but as Nothing can justify the least Opposition to such Complaints ; so neither can the miserable Situation he was in, be offer'd in Excuse, for what he would not have done, in any Year of his Life, under the Seventy and Second ; when
in

Publick especially) than were founded on Honour ; but even the best of Men may therein err. In my last I sent a State of the Colony to the Trustees, which must be left to your, as well as other's, Judgment ; whilst I am not ashamed to own my Aversion to black Slavery.

Since it unhappily so falls out that we differ, suffer me a Word or two : I have known by long Experience many Things brought before the House of Commons, by Way of Complaint of Grievances from Men of Authority ; which are usually received readily ; that afterwards nevertheless have miscarried, and the Whole has been rejected with Contempt, and sometimes with severe Censure of the Promoters. You must imagine that the Trustees are a Body of such Persons, as are not without Advocates in the House, which is often *mutable in Opinion* ; and when Numbers come to be told, even the most experienced among them often find themselves mistaken, and a Majority against them. Having said this, I leave the rest to Providence : But if the Event proves, that this Colony is no longer worth their Care, where there yet remains a good Number, and we are to be sacrificed at last ; I shall take my Lot ; and leave it to those to think of it with Remorse, who are the Cause of our Destruction.

Your, &c.

Will. Stephens.

To Mr. ———, in *London*.

in the deepest Affliction,† he set his Hand
to

† *Dear Son,*

Savannah, 20th Sept. 1740:

I Received your's of the 25th of *April*, intimating that the mournful Event was come to pass, which a former Letter bade me expect, of the final Separation of your Mother from us all; which has made such an Impression, as Words cannot utter, on the Weakness of a Man already press'd down with Sorrow, Troubles and the Infirmities of Age. Endeavouring to recollect what little Faculty of Reason I had left, during that pungent Grief which oppresses my Heart, I remember'd it was my Duty to lay my Hand upon my Mouth; and without repining, to improve the short Time I have left, that I may make sure of entering that Place of Rest, where I may find her a Saint; tho' from me so many Years by the divine Permission, for my Chastisement and better Instruction. To what End is Grief? Or what does Lamentation avail? Nevertheless 'tis a Debt which Nature demands, and Tears are now the only Token of that Affection, which all the Crosses in Life could never extinguish.

When I turn my Thoughts towards her Offspring, there also Sorrow overwhelms me; many of them toiling in an unkind World, and hardly attaining to a sufficient Competency of living with Comfort; and here you, to whom I am writing, stand first in my Thoughts, who have partaken in a large Measure, of the bitter Draught, whereof the Dregs I fear, yet remain to my Share. More and more anxious do I grow, to learn how it fares with all that are left* of my Family; who now, I fear, are become dispersed, without any certain Place of Resort, where to meet sometimes, and take Council together how best to withstand all Adversities. Pray let me have the Relief my Heart stands in Need of in this Particular more especially.

Before

* He lost a Son in *India* about this Time, after his All had twice gone to the Bottom by Shipwreck.

William Stephens, Esq; 113

to that not very extraordinary State of the Colony, fulfilling but half the Words of his Motto, *Incorrupta Fides Nudaque Veritas*; for both which he had always had an equal Regard.

P

When

Before I shut up, as I am left here for a short While, who (from a miserable Inability to do any good among you) scarce deserve the Name of a Father; fain would I offer somewhat of Advice, by what Means your future Attainment to the most perfect Happiness in this Life, is to be sought; and most undoubtedly, Nothing can so well conduce to it, as Unity among yourselves; and keeping alive that sincere Affection one towards another, which I ever thought (and it has been one of the most comfortable Thoughts in my Life) was subsisting, in the Heart of each of you. 'Tis this divine Remedy that will cure all the Anguish which arises from the bitter Crosses in this Life; sticking together in all Conflicts of Adversity, when a threefold Cord is not easily broken; lovingly assisting, *but not depending upon*, one another; and what can hurt you? Others may attain to Grandeur and a richer State of Life; but what Harm does that do you? You'll surely find Peace of Mind here, and Happiness beyond the Power of Devils to take from you hereafter. Tell them all that their poor aged Father entreats them, by the tender Mercies of *Christ*, to embrace this his most ardent Advice, the last of the Sort I may ever give; and, recommending you all to the Protection of the good God who is the Fountain of Love, I remain

Your very affectionate Father

Will. Stephens.

To Mr. ——— Stephens,
in London.

When Contention is carried to such a Height, let a Man's Disposition be ever so pacifick, it is difficult for him to stand neuter; and if he does not go all Lengths, he may as well not engage at all. But he had enter'd the Lists, as he calls it himself, and in a bad Cause, for which he was very soon after rewarded; for, upon a Rumour of an Invasion from St. *Augustine*, the General thought he had an Opportunity of gratifying his Spleen against the People of the Northern Division, who had set a-foot the Complaints against him and the Trustees, by leaving them defenceless, and taking their Cannon to defend those to the Southward; who by Means of the Troops there, were kept a little, but not much, more humble. And Mr. *Stephens* daring to reason upon the Inexpediency of it, without complying as expected, a File of Men were ordered, to "seize the old Rogue, "and put him in Irons;" but it being signified by some of those present, that the Execution of such an Order might be attended with some Hazard or Inconvenience, the Exploit was laid aside, and he escaped the Death

of

of a Brother of Sir *James Sterling*; who was kept in a loathsome Jail which kill'd him, for a not greater Offence: Tho' the disobedience of the other was not forgiven, especially as it help'd to reconcile the People to him; for he was beloved and respected again after this, as before he opposed them.

The Cruelties exercised there, cannot be enumerated here; for the poor Remnant of Inhabitants had no Rest till the General had gone the Length of his String; when his Soldiers were order'd on the Parade, that he might take his Farewel of them; where they waited his coming, whilst he got on Board of Ship, with her Anchor a-peek and the D—— take the hindmost; of which his Friend *Jones* was in such Fear, as to follow the Example of his Master, by taking himself away as fast as he could.

Tho' some may imagine that the General made a ridiculous Figure in that Affair, yet he cannot be said to have had no Faculties, if his Judgment and Foresight be consider'd; particularly in laying Hands on such an Undertaking, projected by *Coram*, which gave

it Reputation; His proposing to settle the Colony for the Crown, by Trustees composed of a great Number of Noblemen and Gentlemen, who were to conduct this great Affair without Fee or Reward; and who would therefore have the less Regard to it; His sending Mr. *Wesley*, and after he had ran away, Mr. *Whitfield* to make Mischief among the People; His amusing so formidable a Body of both Whigs and Tories, till he obtained the Grant of a Regiment; which served the double Purpose of gaining Wealth and Dragooning the Settlers; His laying paternal Injunctions on *his* People to oppose any Attempt to bring Mercenaries among them, whilst he solicited the Regiment unknown to them; His Manner of frustrating the Intention of employing Mr. *Stephens* to good Purpose; And, above all, his Ingenuity in defending the Colony against the *Spanish* Invasion, a Year after he had ruined it, and as long before he cursed it and vanished.

After the Colony had nearly died of the same Doctor who wrought so wonderful a Cure in the *York Buildings*, it seemed in a fair

fair Way of doing as well; with this Difference only, that it was for the Credit and Interest of the Directors of that Company, to set Matters right if they could, after they had confounded them; as it was for the Honour of the *Georgia* Directors to persevere in their destructive Measures; lest their allowing the Colony to do well, should be deem'd a tacit Acknowledgment that they themselves had done ill, or be suppos'd to have been wrong. Therefore the same Government was continued, under the Name, now, of the Council in *Georgia*, for the Amusement of the Publick; and, to give it Dignity, Mr. *Stephens* was constituted President; which, with repealing some oppressive Laws, and making other Changes to keep up a false Credit, served to draw a little Money now and then; till at last, quite tired with their Impertinence, they were told at the Treasury, that, having done but very little for what had been granted, they should have no more: When, supplicating for as much as would pay their Debts, they were answered, No; unless they would surrender their Charter, which would

disable

disable them from contracting more, and coming upon the same Errand again; and after giving such an Account of the Colony as did not pass current at the Council, the Charter was accordingly carried to the Door of the Lords; where it was received by their Clerk, as 'tis said, and not by their Lordships; who insisted upon the Delivery of it then; altho' the Term was expired, within a Year or little more.

In the last mentioned Station Mr. *Stephens* continued about eight Years, acting in conjunction with such Men as the Trustees were pleased to appoint, among whom was one *Habersham*, a Sort of Shopman to a Tradesman in *London*; who having been seduced by Mr. *Whitfield*, had turned Methodist-Preacher, and followed him to *Georgia*; where, in his Absence the Care of his Flock was committed to this illiterate Convert; who had Cunning enough afterwards to see, that, by striking in with the Trustees, some Advantage might be made in the lowest Estate of the Colony; and, being accordingly recommended by the same Bishop, who had laid

laid his Hands on him, it is said that he gave a pleasing, and no Doubt different Account from Mr. *Stephens*,* of the Orphan-House, *Saltzburghers*, and other Sing-Psalms, who had been supported by the Collections of the Trustees || and Mr. *Whitfield*; and who made up a great Part of the small Number of People there; as also that he came off with the greater Applause, it being suggested that the

Savannah, 20th Feb. 1740.

* IF differing Interests and Views were not enough to set us together by the Ears; *Whitfield* and his Crew have made it effectual; and whilst he is gone to look to——himself in *England*, the Nursery he has left behind him here, are pious Pains-takers not to suffer any Disputes to cease, that may keep Enmity awake among us. Your Friend *Br——* is become so superlatively remarkable for his great Exceedings in Phari-saical Hypocrisy, with a stiff affected Gait, his Hat gently laid on his Noddle, and his Eyes so fixed on the Ground, that they admit of no Light but from within. Putting all together he is thoroughly accomplished as to the outward Man; and I shall not be at the Trouble of meddling with the Inward. It is sufficient for me to be aware how I deal with a Person, who cheated me most vilely, very lately, in making me pay double the Value of some Goods, which I could have bought them for elsewhere. This Man, with some others whom you know, make up a Fardle of Brethren to keep alive the Faction, committed to their Care; and, with three or four Deaconesses whom you may likewise remember, are sufficient to hold a charitable Court,

the Colony would soon be able to support itself, their Honours having done very great Things for it; as indeed it was then, they were further told, but for the Expence of the Civil Government and of Forces to defend it; for which Purposes, he approved of the Continuance of Parliamentary Assistance a while longer; until their Trade was sufficient for the Taxes, Duties upon Imports, &c. to defray the Expences of Civil Government, and that the Colony was able to defend itself.

But

Court, and devote all to Hell, that don't travel the same Road to Heaven as they do. This is for the good of the Town.

It would be vain to attempt a Narrative of the Exploits of these Methodists in this Part of the World. The Orphan-House almost finished, at the Expence of at least, 2000*l.* is occupied by a numerous Company of Men, Women, and Children; and this grand Family is left under the Care of such of his Followers, from divers Parts, as he was pleased to appoint; the principal Instructor among them being a Presbyterian-Teacher, that he brought with him lately. He designs himself to take the first Opportunity of sailing for *England*: And what next——Who can tell?

I have always thought it my Duty to acquaint the Trustees with these Proceedings; which, surely must be displeasing to them.

I am, Your, &c.

To Mr. —, in *London*.

Will. Stephens.

¶ The Trustees received private Donations, for carrying on their charitable Designs, as the other did for his pious ones.

But not without giving them to understand, that their President, being far advanced in Years, and having no Genius for Trade, was unfit to be at the Head of that Colony.

Some of the Trustees were so captivated with his Speeches, that Mr. *Stephens* seemed in a fair Way of being superseded; before it was signified, by one of more Sagacity or better Meaning; that, after having been reproached in the House of Commons, for the Malpractices of Pettyfoggers, Taylors, Night-Constables and Blacksmiths, it would not be much for their Credit, that the only Man of Sense and Probity, they ever had employed, should be supplanted by a Jack-Pudding. But this he could not prevent; for the *Whitfieldian* had Craft enough to get himself appointed Secretary for the Colony, Clerk of the Council, and one of the Issuers of Money; which gave him the Power of keeping Mr. *Stephens* to his Post. Whether upon the Credit of this alone, or a little Help *elsewhere*, he settled a Correspondence in *London*, and carried over a Cargo, as 'tis called; and commencing Merchant, opened his Shop in the

Q

Place

Place where the Money centered, engrossing all the Power to himself; nor was it long, after he had once got his Foot in the Stirrup, before he shewed he could ride.

It must be confessed, that in the very wretched Condition of the Settlement at that Time, such a Promotion could make Matters but little worse; though by a Fatality in the Councils of the Trustees, they were as seldom Right, as if they had studied to be Wrong, and never had desired to see a good Establishment of the Colony; or, notwithstanding the Faculties of their old Servant began to fail him, for which they had his own Words now, as well as the Methodist's, they would have found him a Colleague of less Avarice and mean-spirited Insolence.

Being but little more than nominal President, and his small Allowance being so very ill paid, that he had often been reduced to the low Diet of Roots or some Kind of Herbage, with a Beverage, only Water, brown Sugar, and Rum, to cheer him; and his Spirits failing to a great Degree, he yielded in almost every Thing to the other, for Peace
fake;

lake; where he saw that Contention was unlike to produce any Good. But Mr. *Stephens* was still an Eye-sore to the Methodist, whom he had never worshipped any more than he had done Mr. *Whitfield* himself; it was therefore necessary to get rid of the Person who had long stood in their Way; which was not to be done by Application to the Trustees; who, notwithstanding, kept him so miserably poor, that he ran 10 or 20*l.* in Debt to this Merchant; who was preaching *against* Riches, and *for* Love, Charity, and all other Christian Virtues.

And now he could take his Revenge of him, that had been no Friend to their Hypocrisy or Proceedings;* one Instance of which, among many, was his taking an Opportunity to affront Mr. *Stephens*, by delivering his Account and demanding Payment in Publick; at the Time it was well known, he could no more pay, than others, to whom the Trustees were in Arrear; but Insults, which only depressed the Spirits, did not break his Heart; whose very Being

Q 2

* Vide Fol. 119.

ing was an Offence, so long as in the least it stopt the Career of the other; who thought himself so far above Controul, that Attendance on Mr. *Stephens*, which his official Duty required, ill comported with the spiritual Pride and worldly Vanity of the pious Christian, as meek in Profession, as demure of Countenance.

Not very long after the Account was delivered, the grand Point of removing the Person so obnoxious was carried, in a Manner, of which *Jews* would have been ashamed, and the *Heathens* would have blush'd at. This great Man, with another or two, being at the President's House one Afternoon, upon Business concerning the Publick, the latter dropt asleep in his Chair; as younger People often do, in the hot Weather of that Climate; and his Buroe being open, the Saint searched it, and found therein a little Money. Upon the Discovery of this hidden Treasure, though reserved only for the Purchase of such Necessaries, as kept Soul and Body together, in the Uncertainty of a Ship's Arrival, the Righteous Man was not able to

contain

contain himself; but, suddenly rousing the feeble Debtor from his Seat, he pointed to the Burce, saying, "You old Rogue! There's " Money"———And then to the Prison, which was seen from the Window; " And " there's a Jail, —— which you shall go " to, if you don't instantly pay me."——

The Job was effectually done; for this Violence put him into such an Agony, that notwithstanding he was capable of writing before, his Memory being only somewhat impaired; yet, unable to sustain the Shock, he never did much more Business after, than write to the Trustees for Leave to resign; and, about the same Time also, to beg of his Son,* for a small Relief in great Necessity; which added not a little to the deep Grief of them Both: But much more so to that of the Father, did the Death of the other, soon after he gave it: When, bowed down

* *Dear Son,* Savannah, 25th July, 1750.

WHAT I now write, without Doubt, will appear surprizing to you, but Necessity will admit of no Law; and therefore I hope you will forgive my drawing a Bill on you for Nine Pounds, Ten Shillings, and Ten Pence; and I do promise to repay the same to your

down more with Afflictions than Years, Mr. *Stephens* was so incapable, sometimes, almost of giving a rational Answer, and always of helping himself, that it was the Business of one to look after him, at his little Plantation; to which he was carried, and where, his Strength of Body surviving his Senses, he remained till the Oil was exhausted and his Lamp totally extinguished.

Having always been kept extremely poor from his first entering into the Service of the Trustees; it is remarkable, that they settled an Allowance on him during the two or three Years he lived, in so helpless a Condition, after resigning his Office. But the Parliament

your Brother here; having full Confidence in your kind Compliance I remain,

Your affectionate, loving Father,

Will. Stephens.

To the Reverend Doctor *Stephens*,
at *Barking*, in *Essex*.

By Captain *Holloran*.

Q. D. C.

This was probably the last Letter that he ever wrote:

ment granting sparingly, his Pension was small ; and, the Money going thro' the Methodist's Hands, there were great Complaints, of his Modicum being so ill paid, that he was in Want of Necessaries, so short did it fall of a decent support; notwithstanding the Humanity of the Trustees must be acknowledged in this Particular. Tho' as it does not appear, that any of the Tories among them had ever exerted themselves so much in his Behalf; and Sir *John Barrington* being late in the Trust, together with Mr. *Hooper*, who had Both shewn great Regard to some of his poor Family, with whom they had but a slight Acquaintance; it is presumed, that Charity may be ascribed to those two Gentlemen, without Injury done to his Tory Friends in general; who, little as it was, scarce ever did so much either for him or his.

In this Way he languished about three Years longer; hardly able sometimes to recollect his Way, or, at last, to totter from one Room to another; until the Middle of *August*, in the Year of our Lord 1753, and in the Eighty-third of his Age; when, being

ing asked to Tea and seated, a Dish was offer'd him; of which he tasted without swallowing; saying, with great Composure, "I have done eating and drinking in this World." And being led away to his Bed, he laid, unable to speak or receive Nourishment, till the next Day at Noon; when, without Pain or Sickness, Priest or Hobgoblin, it may be truly said, that in Peace he resigned his Soul to the great God who gave it. But, whether honest as a *Walpole*, faithful as a *Pulteney*, wise as a *Dunck*, just as a *Legge*, or steadfast as a *Pitt*; or whether disinterested as a Whig, or friendly as a Tory, he left us a sad Example of the Old Maxim, which Some may imagine has been already too often repeated; tho' Others, not without Reason, think it ought never to be forgotten: **That PARTY is a CONTRIVANCE only TO SERVE PRIVATE INTEREST.**

C H A P. VII.

His Religion and Superstition, Politics and Companions, Prejudice and Prophecy, Character and Family.

THE general Uniformity of his Conduct, and Tenour of his Behaviour, consider'd in publick as well as private Devotions, there is no Room to doubt of his being a true Member of the Church of *England*, of which he professed himself.* He

R declared

Savannah, 20th Sept. 1740.

* **T**HE *Methodists*, you say, die away apace; and that *J. W.* was lately blown and scouted at *Bristol*, &c. I wish I could say the same here, where *Wh—* reigns triumphant. His Doctrine among us, is the same I presume, as his Brethren teach elsewhere; “Concerning a New Birth, from whence Conviction will follow of our Unworthiness, then Conversion comes of Course, and next Justification by Faith alone; and when we are come to that State, we shall feel the Holy Spirit move within us, as sensibly as the Sun-beams on our Bodies: Such as arrive at this, are the Heirs of Salvation; but unless we attain to that Perfection, Hell waits for us, and so it does for **ALL** them that teach otherwise.”

The humble Sanctity in Appearance, which he first set out with, is blown over; and his Carriage now shews plainly the inward Pride of his Heart. Wherever he goes Distraction attends; Families are at **Variance,**

declared too, that, amongst the several Modes of Worship in Use, the Liturgy of our Church seemed to him, the most rational; and that the Religion of Dissenters, placed in hearing of Sermons, seemed to him as inconsistent as that of a Papist's saying so many Prayers, or telling a Number of Beads. However he did not deny, but the Service of a Church, founded in Iniquity, might admit

riance, Parents and Children opposing one another; and here, most People of Sense are so weary of him, as not to go to Church.

I am sorry to see your old Friend *John* ——— one of his principal Corner-stones, having always looked on him as a Man of better Understanding; besides whom, I know of none worth naming, except a Parcel of weak Women; only *Jones*, you may be sure, has it in his Heart and Blood to join with any or all such as weaken the established Church.

Thus under a Notion of an Orphan-House for training up Children * in the true Religion; 'tis expected to be filled (as he has begun) with great Numbers that he shall pick up from all Parts; and with proper Schools, 'twill become a Seminary for a future Spawn of Sec-taries (of what Kind God knows) ready prepared to combine with too many, that we know already to be incessant in their Labours to overturn the Best of Churches. What Heed can be given to a Man's professing himself of that Church, when we daily see her

Liturgy

* The Vice and Immoralities of those so trained, are said to be such, as deter People from taking them for Servants; Boys often making as free with the Property of others, as the Girls with their own.

admit of some Alterations; though lame as it is, it may be said, as *David* did of *Goliath's* Sword, and therefore unfit to be put into the Hands of those who think,

*As if Religion was intended,
For Nothing else but to be mended.* Hud.

His Charity was, notwithstanding, extended to all; though he had but little more Hopes of a Protestant Hypocrite than of a

R 2

Popish

Liturgy mangled, many of the most sublime Parts of Devotion omitted, to make Way for extempore Enthusiasm, the Surplice laid wholly aside, and Baptism, though not absolutely refused, yet put off for another to do.

As he had an Anabaptist-Teacher (a Taylor by Trade) with him at his House, who frequently preached to the Congregation in his Stead; and went hence with him: So he took Care we should have another, of the like Stamp, to instruct us whilst he was abroad; and the Person appointed in his Stead (a Sort of Pulpit *Merry-Andrew*) dins the Ears of those that go to hear him, with his nonsensical Explication of that abstruse Point of Election, which the most learned Divines touch upon with great Caution; whilst this impudent Quack makes as familiar with it, as if he was in the Council of the ALMIGHTY. And it is expected by some, that before he goes off, he will put his Imprimatur on such as he thinks worthy to be number'd among the Saints, and deliver the rest over to *Satan*. 'Twould be endless to pursue this.

I remain,

Your, &c.

Will. Stephens.

To Mr. — —, in London.

Popish one; who will stick at Nothing totally to destroy both Church and State; which the other, were it in his Power, would be ever subverting, under the Pretence of working a Reformation.

Of the Two he granted the latter to be the less hurtful, tho' more numerous; Hypocrisy being an Accomplishment only of a Priest in the *Romish* Persuasion; and never failing, either among such of the Protestant Saints, as shew most extreme Diligence, in their Function of Soul-saving, or those taught that Salvation depends upon Sermon-hearing; where it equally moved his Pity and Wrath, to see the Deluded rending their Hearts, and the Insincere their Garments, with their Eyes fixed on the Cieling.

*And, like stunn'd Calf, with Whites of Eyes
upturn'd.*

Anonym.

From a Belief that such were not in Pursuit of Truth, he was no more fond of going to *bear* or *worship* these, which means the same Thing, than of bowing to or kissing an Image of the other; tho' where Preaching was the established Religion, as in *Scotland* and *Georgia*,

gia, he went to such Assemblies, among others professing Christianity, for Example sake; and behaved with great Decency, however absurd was the Doctrine, or ridiculous the Action, of the Teacher.

For the same Reason that he did not delight in going to hear them, he avoided Controversy; but not without letting them know, however, That the Way to Heaven is plain; and, incomprehensible as Religion was made to appear, by those who did it so great a Dishonour, as, in the Days of Ignorance, to make more a Mystery of it, than was intended by our Saviour; whose Doctrine is most plain and intelligible; That there is still sufficient left, both in the Old and New Testament, to direct us in the right Road, without the expounding of Prophecies and Revelations; and, strolling into Paths unknown, till lost in a Labyrinth, the *Hearers* are told for their Edification, That whatsoever comes to pass was fore-ordained, &c. &c. &c.

This being the Case with such Pulpit-orators and their Audience, he would admit of no other Use there is in Preaching, than to instruct

instruct the Ignorant, and to put the Knowing in Mind of their Duty; notwithstanding which, he agreed with the dignified Clergy, that 'twas best to let alone our Field-Praacher, Conventiclors, and Mob-Lecturers; but he thought nevertheless, that an apparent Negligence, for many Years past, had furnish'd a Handle for a certain Sect called *Methodists*, to give the pretty Epithets of drowsy Shepherds, dumb Dogs, &c. somewhere; which have been so plentifully bestowed without Distinction.

His Notion perhaps was something singular, in making a little Difference betwixt a Toleration of Persuasions, and Disregard of Religion; and betwixt giving Liberty of Conscience, and destroying the Religion established; for the Sake of those, who by their Life and Doctrine, certainly have but Neighbour's Share of either. And it would have been Matter of Concern for him to have seen Equipages, at the Tabernacle in *Tottenham-Court-Road*, waiting for Persons of Rank and virtuous Education, *preparing to combine with too many, that we know, already, to be incessant*

incessant in their Labour to overturn the best of Churches.

It was his Opinion that Enthusiasm would subside, if the Clergy would only fight them at their own Weapons; for, allowing the Love which the Generality of People have for their Ears being tickled, they would rather it were done by a Man of Sense that will tune his Voice, than by the unintelligible Jargon of mere Lungs and Front.

And he would say, how must a Man with a Scarf and starch'd Band, in a handsome Peruke, affect a Congregation? When, by the Help of a Glass of Courage, taken in the Vestry, he stands sawing in the Pulpit, and his Words dropping insipidly from him, as if he was falling asleep, whilst the Coffee is making to refresh him after the Fatigue is over, of speaking as if he does not believe what himself is saying.

It must be confessed, that in ordinary Congregations, few are Judges of the Subject or Discourse; but yet it is too mean an Opinion to entertain of Mankind, That People will not be sooner charmed with Reason enforced

forced by Assurance, than captivated with Nonsense laid down by Impudence; and this is well known in Churches well served. It is evident, to every observant Man, that eminent Preachers in the Church of *England* never fail of a full Audience: The Names of several now living, might be set down here, but are omitted for Brevity sake; as they are not a few and also well known to the Publick. Therefore with humble Submission to some Reverend Gentlemen, although such extempore Preachers may be better let alone, yet their impious Designs ought neither to be connived at, nor to pass unheeded, by those whom they traduce. But if a Prelate could tamely witness the passing of a Law, for Transportation of innocent Clergymen like Felons,* he might also patiently submit to Indignities offer'd himself.

It must likewise be confessed, that every Divine has not the Talent of speaking well, though learned and pious; and, it is to be feared, that too many, who can, are seldom disposed to exert themselves. As for the
First,

* Marriage Act.

First, if, from the Indiscretion of Parents, a Man has the Misfortune of being brought up to a Profession of such Consequence, for which he is not qualified; in that Respect, a reasonable Share of a good Stipend, apply'd to the Support of an Assistant, would procure such an one, as would draw the very *Presbyterians* to Church; especially if the Allowance was sufficient to enable him to pursue his Studies with Comfort, instead of being told ——— *I can be served 5 l. cheaper.* And as for the Doctor who can speak and will not, his Supineness is less pardonable than Enthusiastic Madness. He therefore proposed the Faithful and Diligent should have a comfortable Support out of the Superabundance given to the Drowsy and Dumb.

Another Cause to which he imputed the Growth of such a Pest, was the Want of Churches in those Parts of these two Cities where they mostly swarm; for, notwithstanding the Multitude of Examples of Irreligion and Immorality in high Life, there is unquestionably a Portion of the People, and 'tis to be hoped not a small one in every

Rank, who from a Sense of the Deity have a strong Impulse to some Sort of Adoration; and if they cannot join in that Sort of Worship which they were first taught, they will in some other, which to them appears similar. Thus it is for the most Part, that weak Minds, in Time, are debauched. And a more particular Regard ought to be had to them in the Metropolis than elsewhere; because it takes the Lead in Customs and Fashions, as well of Praying, as of Dressing and Addressing.

He was observing in 1737, when *Methodism* was but newly starting up, that none of those Sectaries would ever rise to any Head, if, to the due Discharge of the sacred Function, were added only 10 or 15,000 *l. per An.* for Building of Churches, and making Provision for Persons qualified for the Pulpits in them, and computed it thus; that a decent Place for divine Worship, and two habitable Houses, might be built for a Sum from 20 to 30,000*l.* So that a Church rising up once in two Years, there would have been the Addition of at least twenty Churches by
the

the Year 1760; as well for the Ease of
Thousands of good Christians, who stand,
crouding and interrupting the Devotion of
each other, in the Ailes; as for the Recep-
tion of Tens of Thousands, who would
gladly join in publick Praises and Thanksgiv-
ings to their Creator and Redeemer once on
the Sabbath, instead of celebrating that Day,
only by a Walk in the Fields, had they a
Place to go to. And supposing each Pa-
rish to have no more than 200 Houses in it,
they would be able to support both a Morn-
ing and Afternoon-preacher, neither of them
to have less than 100*l. per An.* clear, Sur-
plice-fees excepted. And as to the Notion
of a general Indifference about divine Ser-
vice, as People are too apt to imagine there
is, from the thin Congregations which so
frequently appear in the City; it must be ob-
served That great Part of the Inhabitants are
in the Country, where they go to Church;
That the Dissenters are numerous in the Ci-
ty; That he that sleeps not, hath a full Con-
gregation notwithstanding; And, tho' the
Churches are many, That two drowsy Con-
gregations

gregations would fill one, with those who might be roused from their Slumber, in Spite of Roast-Beef and Port. And he was of Opinion too, that the Nation would not have been fifty Millions the poorer if the Money for the first had been spar'd out of Sums gone from this small Island, within the last forty-five Years, towards the Support of a Country of such Importance, as to make all that belong to it really and truly Dear to this Nation, whose Religion is said to be dependent on, and preserved thereby.

If Politics and temporal Affairs would permit, possibly the Attention of the Right and most Reverend within their several Jurisdictions might have a good Effect; which may be hoped for, when neither themselves, nor the Religion they profess, are subservient to the State; therefore Tribes of Enthusiasts cannot so multiply or increase as to become formidable to this State; which, surely, is in no fair Way of becoming subject to any other, in a Course of Years; as that poor mistaken Man did, and other silly People do, imagine. In short, he had such a Regard to
Ordon-

Ordonnances, that he would have been pleased at the Sight of so strict an Observance of the general Fast, when the Quaker's Windows were broke for opening his Shop; and so much a Bigot was he to Superstitions of Old, that he would have lamented to have heard obscene Ballads singing in the Streets, and to have seen all Shops open with indecent Figures, in some of them, exhibited on *Good-Friday*; which he observed as a Day of Humiliation for *Christ's* Passion; as he did the 30th of *January*, for the Sins of his Grand-father; imploring of the Almighty, that they might not be *punish'd to the Third and Fourth Generation*. But that Part of divine Worship in which he most delighted was Thanksgiving; though he thought it prophane, when, upon some Occasions, ordered by Princes after Victories gained.

These were his Sentiments as to Religion; and as to Morals, its Offspring, he could not think them much improved, as some will insist upon, under a Parent who has none; nor would he grant the World to be grown much better, though politer; since in Exchange

change for Drunkenness, and other ungentleman-like Vices, there are Covetousness and Gaming, Deceit and Hypocrisy, Extravagance and Corruption, Fornication and Adultery with some, more unnatural and detestable, which never more abounded; tho' under the Disguise of Gallantry and Pleasure, Prudence and Piety. Nor, on the other Hand, would he allow of so great a Depravity, as the same Casuists insist upon; and who only, can reconcile, to the Goodness of the Age, the Reverse of that Precept, which teaches to believe every Man honest, till he is found otherwise.

To conclude, as he believed in God the Creator, and in *Jesus Christ* the Redeemer, of Mankind; so likewise he did in a Tribunal, where every Man shall be judged according to his Behaviour in this Life; therefore did he govern himself accordingly; and endeavoured to do as he would be done by: Nor did he think him damnably cheated neither, who had not his Laugh out in this World, as some would persuade us to believe; though

though he would say in his Mirth, that he thought the Gloomy cheated themselves.

And agreeable to what he professed was his Example, his Time being spent accordingly. He was never so easy as when in the Country with his Family, though ready at all Times to leave them when Duty required. And, notwithstanding he had no great Passion for the Entertainments of the Town, he could make it agreeable in Turn, by dividing his Time betwixt Business and the Company of a few plain Men of common Sense, chosen from any Degree under that of Nobility, for whose extreme Delicacy he had not much Relish, more than for the Grimace of the Courtier.

But at his Home, he took Pleasure in indulging such Thoughts as he was naturally prone to; and which, the Hurry and Business of the Town, he ever complained, caused a total Dissipation of. His Garden and Farm, though large, was no more than an Amusement to him, and served to relax and unbend his Mind from severer Applications. As no Man had more Regard to Order,

der, so he lived here by Rule; and would not suffer the innocent Pleasures of his Youth, such as Hunting, Bowling, &c. to interfere with the Duty of the Day. Oftener rising before than after six in the Morning, the Year round, his first Business was to retire to his private Devotion.

The next Thing was to attend domestic Oeconomy; an Article in which he was so regular, that Accounts were duly kept, for above three-score Years together, of Receipts and Disbursements, Tradesmen's Bills, &c. which, at the End of each Year, were tied up and endorsed with the Names of the respective Persons. He also kept Books in his own Hand-writing, of every Acre of Land he plow'd, with what sown, and the Produce of the whole Farm.

No Man scarce ever had a better Turn for Improvements ornamental and useful. The Disposition of that Farm to which Colonel *Dudley* gave the Name of *Buen Retiro*, was so elegantly rural, that it is said to be one of the prettiest Places in *England*; for tho' he was always doing a little, he followed the Simplicity

plicity of Nature so much, that there was very little Appearance of Art in whatever he did. His Plantation in *Georgia* was so laid out with Vines, Figg, Mulberry, Orange Trees, &c. for Use, that it is the most delightful Place in those Parts, tho' all the Buildings upon it, did not cost 100*l*.

The Morning Business done, he walked thro' his Grounds, and returned to Breakfast with his Family; after which, if not interrupted, or called off, he read, and employed what other Time he had to spare, which was very little, in instructing or playing with his Children; on whom he did not keep so tight a Rein as did his Fore-fathers; nor one so loose, as now, in an Age not less licentious, which will not give even so much as a gentle Check. At Nine at Night he collected all his Family together; and after giving Orders for the next Day's Business, he read to them the Psalms and second Lesson with the Collects of the Day, and so concluded it.

AS to Politics; in Regard to the State, he thought, as of the Church, that the Constitution

tution was the best in the World,—till mangled by Sir *Robert*, as the Liturgy is by Mr. *Whitfield*; therefore Nothing could ever tempt him to be concerned in any Proposal for making Innovations in either. And from an Apprehension of some bad Consequence, of the growing Power in one Estate of Parliament, in Proportion to the Diminution of the other Two, or either of them, he opposed Sir *Robert*, and that Party which favored of the Republican; blaming him for the Means which he used to procure a Majority, for the Support of Measures repugnant both to the Reputation and Wealth of the Nation, and to the Constitution of Church and State.

Whether they differ'd in Opinion or not, Mr. *Stephens* adhered to his own, as to such Matters, without entering too minutely into the Merits of continental Measures and Alliances, in which that great Minister distinguished himself, till we had no Ally left; as a near Relation of his * said in the House of Commons: And besides, Mr. *Stephens* always declared himself ignorant of the System
of

* His Brother.

of Politics in Foreign Countries; which, from so many different Interests, were productive of frequent Jarring among them, and of Expedients with us, too profound for his shallow Understanding; who judged himself, indeed, that, in this Country, a Minister's Time might be as well employed in Oeconomy at Home, as in making Mischief, or carrying on of Intrigues, in a Country as foreign to this, as such Negotiations are to its Interests; for with their Troubles we have no more Concern, as a Nation, than we have Connection with *Germany*; unless in Respect to Trade; and so we have indeed with the Wars of the *Turks* and *Persians*. This he thought to be the Case with Ministers in his own Country, whatever it may be with those on the Continent; who also might neglect their own Affairs perhaps, whilst such Negotiators are so mighty busy, where they have so very little to do.

He was the more apt to entertain this Opinion, perhaps from Notions which he had conceived of the Climate, Produce, and Situation of this Island; for he thought, if

they were consider'd, together with the Genius of the People, its Powers would appear to be immense ; as would be found by others, if its Interests were pursued independant of theirs. He therefore imagined, that the Preservation of the Constitution, and Protection of Trade, were more worthy the Attention of a Minister here, than that of prying into Cabinets abroad ; of which they are so fond, whether for the Sake of Lucre or to be thought knowing ; and if the first of the two chief Objects were scrupulously observed, as it ought, the other would not be found difficult. For our Neighbours might be left to quarrel among themselves ; tho' not without a Visit to some of their Ports, now and then made by a *British* Flag ; especially when called upon to arbitrate any Differences among them, or to assist the weaker Side ; who would be a natural Ally and glad of your Commerce for the sake of the Commodities produced in this Country, which are necessary to others ; and thus by the Disposal of them, Trade would vastly extend itself, in Spight of every Power
upon

upon the Continent, not excepting *French* Enemies, nor even *Dutch* Friends.

And he was so chimerical, as to imagine likewise, that those two great Ends might be obtained without the Help of a standing Army; without a Debt of one Hundred Millions; without making a System of Corruption; and without aggrandizing a Petty State, or First and Petty Ministers and all their Kindred.

Nay, he was so absurd, as to say, that Luxury and Extravagance were not of more Service, in a Country, than Industry and Frugality; and that exorbitant Taxes were no Advantage to Trade; notwithstanding Half a Million out of what was raised by the industrious Poor, should, by such Means, go to the Support of those who signalize themselves in the Service of their King and Country; not only in their profuse Consumption of Imports, brought in foreign Bottoms and paid for in Money; but by their Addition to the Revenue, for Customs paid; which proves the Exports to exceed the other, and the Ballance being therefore great,
in

in Proportion to the Excess of Imports, that the Increase of Riches here is without End; and like an Argument without Principle, in Matters of Speculation; in which there is such a Concatenation, arising from *Contingencies* Circumstances, as they from Continges, and these again from Markets and Manufactures; which depend upon the Fate of Kingdoms, in the Hands of unstable Men. And therefore, notwithstanding that from such our Trade, Buildings and Debts, the Addition of Wealth is supposed to be vast, yet to evince a Ballance growing in our Favor, would almost puzzle a *Barnard*, or indeed a *Locke*; whose Doctrine of Idéas, did not enable Mr. *Stephens* to make himself quite so much Master of the Subject, as that single one, of getting Money, does those in Trade.

He was certainly very unfortunate in his Way of thinking, which differ'd much from the present Mode; for so great an Admirer of Merchant Adventurers as he was, he yet thought Trade was best confined to the City, and not suffer'd to creep through *Temple-Bar*. Therein was he singular again;

gain; for, since a Market was erected at *Westminster*, a Commodity produced in most of the Boroughs in the Kingdom is become a Staple, of which there has been a prodigious Sale; and to vast Advantage is that Sort of Traffick carried on, by such Managers as are so frugal, that they will not throw away 7000*l.* which to them is a Concern of Moment, in order to save 100,000*l. per An.* a meer Trifle to this Country;—which stands in no Need of such Savings, though paid to the Enemies thereof; whilst our Financier is raising Supplies, *to the Honour of the Nation and to please the People*: Which proves however, that Industry and Frugality are of Use if judiciously applied, especially as great Estates are got by Wholesale Dealers, tho' not by the industrious Poor, even among that Sort of Traders, as they deal only in the Retail Way; but yet far beyond any Thing that *Mr. Stephens* ever attempted; as it does not appear, by his Accounts, that he ever ventured above 5*l.* in the 20 and 5 Years he was concerned, and that was expended, TOWARDS an Entertainment, with the Corporation

poration at *Newport*, AFTER he was made Commissioner.

Being neither Politician or Tradesman, his narrow Thoughts were so confined to Fundamentals, that he never would argue upon Contingencies, relating to Government or Trade, or to the Trade of Government; which to him were as unaccountable as the Measures from whence they arise. And remembering a Maxim in Chemistry, — *if all Things are rightly prepared the Operation will surely succeed*, — he became less and less solicitous about Expedients, which he did not understand any more than he did a peevish Opposition; which, though antient and fierce, subsided in the Year 1742, when the Tories fulfilled his Prediction of their helping that Sort of Men to what they wanted; who, under the Sanction of Patriotism, are restless in every Reign, which they cannot govern and direct to their own private Advantage.

To be plain, tho' he lived and died what is called a Tory, he was the Man, whom a Patriot, bawling for Liberty, would appear

to

to be; and would allow of no other Difference betwixt Tory and Whig-Principles than this: Not denying but the best Constitution, framed by Men, may be liable to Inconveniencies, he believed, however, those arising from a due Support of Monarchy might be remedied; because there is only One, and that an open Enemy, to deal with; but thought the Notions of Whigs out of Trade chimerical, and suiting only such as must have their full Share of that Power, which they would throw into the Hands of a People, pursuing their private Interests; and therefore so different are their Views, that, divided into Parties, they are as productive of Mischief as *Pandora's* Box; and if, by a Jumble of such Patriots, the Nation should be ruined, tho', according to Law, they might thank the Delusion; and therefore should the Country become a Prey to Others, it would be no great Consolation to the Slaves of this; that it was their own Doings; for which Reason he dreaded the fostering in his Bosom a secret Enemy never to be come at.

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And

And he therefore died a Martyr in the Cause of the Tories of his Time, whatever they thought then, or Party means now; because their Success might better have effected the Security of our Religion, and Liberty likewise, which, above all Things, the Others appeared to be in so great Concern for, than that Principle which distinguishes so little betwixt Liberty and Licentiousness, as to subvert, without putting in Order, what they bring into Confusion.

But all that has been said to prove he had an Eye to Merit rather than Party, does not amount to more than his own Words* and Dictates of his

* *Newport, Isle Wight,*

March 16d, 1724.

PLEASE your Grace, this is to bag the Favour of you to remove Mr. *Will. Stephens*, of this Island, from being a Justice of the Pease; he is on of those Men that allways opposed your Intrusts on your Elections, and all your Friends down to this Day; he is on of those Men that meets and belongs to the Tory Club, and meets at each others Houses [*which his Grace knew very well, having made one among them at Mr. Stephens's.*] If you had forgot me, to remind you, I was one of your Inspectors; the late Duke your Father did doe me the like Favour; he turned out Mr. *Benjamin Bagster*, [*a very worthy Man, his Indolence only excepted, and which was such, as, 'tis said, made him desirous of being left out of the Commission*] and it have been a great Ease to

his Heart, when persecuted by one of more Interest than Party, tho' of more Party than Principle; for, if we may judge of a Man from the Company he seems most fond of (as Mr. *Stephens's* Choice of Companions was agreeable to his Sentiments of Religion and Politics) it may be imagined, that he did not think the worse of himself, for living in

U 2

Charity

to your Friends. If this was done it is my Opinion it would be on Means that this Sort of Wead would not be sent to the House again, no more to ad, but my Service to your Unkle my Lord *William*, whome have laid at my House. Ever Since the Reverlussion I have been a faithfull Servant to your Family, and ever shall remain the same till Death.

Joseph Whitehead.

To the Duke of Bolton.

The A N S W E R.

May it please your Grace, Barton, April 22d, 1724.

WHatever Motives might induce Mr. *Whitehead* to apply in so impudent a Manner to your Grace, I think myself obliged to make my Address also; wherein I hope to obtain Pardon, since 'tis intended in the most grateful Manner to acknowledge your Goodness in sending me what Mr. *Whitehead* had thought fit to suggest concerning me. It is no small Satisfaction, that when he had been putting together all those Faults which his good Will could find, he has not attempted to lay any Thing partial or unjust to my Charge, in the Discharge of my Office. The utmost that his
Malice

Charity with those whose Actions he did not approve of; whilst he did his Part, in opposing of Measures, which they were industrious in the Support of; and more especially, when a Man of that Sort declared himself without Reserve, and adhered to what he professed.

Though

Malice could attain to, has been to accuse me of keeping Tories Company, and having opposed your Grace's Interest. As to the First, my Lord, I readily own that I keep both Whig and Tory Company; and that indifferently; never declining either; being of Opinion, that if all Gentlemen did so, Peace and good Neighbourhood would thrive the better, and Party-Strife wear off; which has so unhappily created Breach of Friendship, in many Places. Could he have charged me with Disaffection to the present Establishment, I dare say he would; but in that I defy him.

As to the other Part, which he meanly alledges against me, of having opposed your Grace's Interest, I cannot deny but it has been my Misfortune formerly to be opposite. The same Motives are not always alike cogent, nor ever will be. I can appeal to all that know me well, that I never entertained the least personal Disrespect for your Grace or Family; and this Scribler was not aware that he was writing to a Person of Honour, who knows how to overlook and generously disdain the Remembrance of such Things.

Mr. *Whitehead* had indeed some Cause to wish my Removal from the Commission of the Peace; since to his Cost I would not suffer that Commission to be set at Nought by him; when he insolently took a Warrant of mine from the Officer who had the legal Execution
of

Tho' there is a Sort of Men for whom he had no great Veneration ; for he divided Mankind into three Classes, the UPRIGHT, the DOWNRIGHT and the SHUFFLER ; of which Characters, he preferred the First, as the most easily attained and best understood ; and next

of it, put it in his Pocket, and discharged the Person in Custody ; for which I preferred a Bill of Indictment against him at the last Affizes. This, my Lord, is the real Grief. I humbly beg Pardon for trespassing so long on so dirty a Subject, and remain,

May it please your Grace,

Your most obedient, and

Respectful humble Servant,

To his Grace
the Duke of Bolton.

Will. Stephens.

S I R,

April 25th, 1724.

I Have received yours, and you have judged very justly, that I could not by any Representation (except proved to me) so much as hurt your Character, or to have an ill Opinion of you ; especially when it came only from Mr. *Whitehead*. I shall be always very glad to do you any Service in my Power, and am,

Sir,

Your most humble Servant,

Bolton.

To *William Stephens, Esq.*

next the Second ; because, when once you find the Interest of one of These, you know where to *Have* him ; but, looking on the Third as amphibious, and possessed of the ill Qualities of the second, without his good ones, he made a Ballad * on them, and sung it to the Tune of * * * *.

The

* *The OTTER and JOCKEY.*

I.

YE jolly brave Huntsmen, give Ear to my Story,
That's neither relating to Whig or to Tory ;
Such Names I abhor as puzzle the Nation,
As hard to be construed as new Moderation :

The Thing I shall tell,
Which lately befel ;

And is nothing but what you all know very well,
How Gentle and Simple, by Land and by Water,
Went out very boldly to hunt a poor OTTER.

II.

The *Otter* long Time 'mong the Willows had nested,
And many a River full sore had infested,
The Trout and the Minnows, the Tench and the
Gudgeon,

By him were devour'd by some People's judging ;

At length 'twas thought best,

Full eighty Miles West,

To send for a *Dog* that could hunt out this Beast :
And JOCKEY must drive him by Land and by Water,
Sure never was Sport like this hunting the OTTER !

III.

The Hunters all met and each other saluted,
Two hundred and Fifty at least were computed,

All

The Occasion of it was this: Information having been given of an *Otter* seen, and the Gentlemen of the Neighbourhood agreeing to hunt him, they actually sent into the West-Country for a Dog; but after all, could find

All lusty young Fellows with Weapons tremendous,
Expecting what Sport Lady *Fortune* would send us.

Some hoopt and some hift,

And *Jockey*, he pist,

But as for the *Otter* he thought of it least;

So *Jockey* walkt by as an idle Spectator,

And left it to Others to hunt out the OTTER.

IV.

The Sportsmen were staunch at the Game which they hunted,

And therefore resolv'd they'd not be disappointed,

Tho' *Jockey* was lazy and car'd not a Tittle,

Curs, Coxcombs, and Spaniels shew'd plainly their Mettle.

Thro' Plashes and Briars,

Away went the 'Squires,

Prigs, Cuckolds, and Blacksmiths just hot from their Fires;

But *T——n* expected his Wife and his Daughter

Would hunt a fresh Game while they hunted the OT-
TER.

V.

The Rout for a while thus disturbed the River,

Alas! but their Toil proved not worth a Stiver;

They trod down the Sedge, and kept a great Pother

While most that they did was to blame one another.

When all at a Stand,

And no *Otter* found,

A Miller hard by said he was in his Pond,

Oh! then they resum'd their old Vigour and Clutter,

And all except *Jockey* had Hopes at the OTTER.

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find no other Species of Otters than the Super-subtile, who were lying by against a general Election. And whoever knew *Jockey*, or remembers some Trimmers of those Times,

VI.

The Miller embarking in Boat with flat Bottom,
His Pond was surrounded with wise Men of *Gosham*;
Who gaping intent while the Miller kept thumping,
A Hole was discover'd from whence issued Something;
Some said this and that,
And I know not what:

But those that were knowing said it was but a *Rat*:
Hey *Touzer*, hey *Jockey* the Rabble did mutter,
And they killed the Ducks, by Mistake, for the OT-
TER.

VII.

The Miller tormented to see his Misfortune,
Did think it high Time to leave off this Sporting;
And finding he brought himself into a Scrape,
Was willing the Vermin should make his Escape.

Yet, say what we will,

The *Otter's* there still,

As safe in the Pond as the Thief in his Mill.

But near was a House where all thought it better,

To tipple, than hunt any more for the OTTER.

VIII.

Now *Trimmers*, like *Otters*, say some People jarring,
Are neither good Fish, nor yet Flesh or Red-herring;
They always suspect that no Good is design'd 'em,
And the Water once troubled you never can find 'em.

They all of 'em know,

'Twixt high Church and low,

To find an Occasion to move to and fro.

In Shuffling and Trimming by Land and by Water,

They take their Advantage as well as the OTTER.

Times, must allow the Allegory to be good ; for he often set out well, and his Courage as often failed him, when the Game was pushed by those who were more staunch.

It might be the better understood, if it were said, that, as Mr. *Stephens* ranked the just Man in the first Class ; so, he that avowed Iniquity and stuck at Nothing was of the Second ; but those of the Third are more numerous, whether they come under the Denomination of the Cunning, the Perfidious, the Reserved, the Timid, the Shuffler or Amphibious ; for all which he would allow of but one Class or Species, notwithstanding their great Variety and Difference in Genus. And such of them, as were once found nestling among the Willows, he never much liked, no more than he did an Otter, Miller, or Brewer, whether a High-low or a Low-high ; which with him signified an impudent Strut, sometimes seen in the Unbred and Ill-bred, in Contrast to the mean Spirit, too often found among our BETTERS.

But, to illustrate his Meaning still farther, he ranked Mr. *Strachey* and his own Son in

the first Class; not doubting but a thousand others, in this Kingdom, might each find as many of the like, among their Acquaintance: But the worshipful, his steady Grand-father, who could better swallow a Bolus than himself could do a Pill, it is to be feared, was but of the Second; as were *Kouli Kan*, alias *Shaw Nadir*, the Lord Protector, and the Grand Corrupter. And as for the Opponents of the last, who did not always mean what they said, he looked upon them as amphibious; not excepting a northern Potentate and his Train; who not a dead Mark, like a Mag-pye of the second Class, must be taken running, or *moving to and fro*.

The lesser Sort of these Water-vermin he paid so very little Regard to, that if he was to look up now, (as he was accustomed to do, or strait forwards, but never sideways) and to see an Animal nestling in any Ruins at *Whitehall*, or *moving to and fro* betwixt the *Bank-side* and the Stream that runs that Way from *Lincolns-Inn-Fields*, he would trace him; 'till, by the Width of his Step, he could find the Length of his *Leg*; and
if

if it was but a *Rat* he would let it pass among the innumerable Diminutives.*

There is another Sort of which he had no Notion; this seems to be not so much depressed as the former, and is often found among Shipping, with the Head above Water and a Tortoise in its Teeth, betwixt two amphibious Beasts, one looking downwards, the other askew. †

But if he was to listen, and, at the same Time, to hear a Creature of a larger Size MOVING To and Fro, with great Strides; and was to catch him doubling in the old Track of others, he would suspect him lurking, a little sometimes, among the Osiers, in order to prey upon Gudgeons; a Sort of Fish, of which there is great Abundance, and are easily taken when the Water is disturbed, as it is very apt to be in that River. But he

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would

* To what can a Man be compared better, who, not unmindful of himself, though unjust to others, does as he is bid, to keep a good Place, whilst he receives a gold Box?

† What Praise is due to a Man so fit to be sole Secretary for Plantations, as to be ignorant of, or connive at the Abuses of some of the Rulers, as well as the governed; and particularly where a Lieutenant has been long a Witness of a most scandalous Trade? Such Connivance here is bad, whether from Love or Fear of such Potentates there.

would wait before he hunted him, to see whether it might not turn out a downright *Land-Animal*; for tho' such are often noxious, yet he Might prove simple and inoffensive, or perhaps useful.

IT having been already observed what *English* Prejudices Mr. *Stephens* entertained in regard to his Country; so, as others, as strong against the Proceedings of his Countrymen, contributed to his Ruin, they ought not to be passed over without Notice; for notwithstanding he was a Man of great Forbearance, yet if he did resent, which was very seldom, he never cared to have any Communication with the Person again. And it is very remarkable, notwithstanding his Love of Society, Affability of Temper, and Aversion to Disputes, in Affairs either of a publick or private Nature, that he could scarce conceal the Disgust he took, sometimes, to those who were bought with a Price to betray their Trust, in regard to the former; altho' he was too apt, perhaps, to give up a Point, rather than quarrel
for

for the Sake of his own private Interest: But Breach of Faith, especially in publick Concerns, he thought unpardonable. Therefore, not granting that this Nation must necessarily be undone, because others have been, and even the mighty States of *Holland*, are likely to suffer an almost total Eclipse, he would have no Hand in its Destruction; and, though he allowed that it might be ruined, he would not partake of the Plunder, meerly because others did so,—who could see no further into such future Events, than to prophesy the Fall of a Building, shaken by themselves.

These were the Men to whom he preferr'd Kings; because the Great who are in Office under them, being bound to obey only the lawful Commands of their Sovereign; and, not bound to serve, whenever they cease to be such, they might advise and resign, with as much Decency, as to bully and throw up, when he does not gratify their extravagant Ambition or insatiable Avarice; and because, in his Name, they put in and turn out; as, in that of the Publick, they set Him up and pull Him down, for the same Reason

Reason and from the same Motive; and if their Conduct is called in Question, and they can't easily bring their Prince into the Scrape; it is vindicated by a swarm of Scriblers, employed to make a Jumble of Comparisons and to charge preceding Reigns and Ministers with Crimes unknown. Tho' he allowed that the Failings of the *Stuarts* were great, yet that they did not extenuate Crimes committed since, of which base Invention and false Reports are an Aggravation. So, if the Great, for the Time being, are said to be wrong, you are stunn'd with Cries against the old ones; as that the States of the united Provinces are in Debt equal to ourselves, the Finances of *France* are worse than our own, and that their Trade is quite ruined: Which, whether altogether true or not, serve first to confound, and then to justify every destructive Measure, or Scheme, as wild as the General's of marching his Regiment 700 Miles from *Georgia* through the Woods to *Moubille*; and from thence to go and take the City of *Mexico*, which was proposed before he left *St. Augustin* behind him, and
returned

returned to *Frederica*, afterwards attacked in Turn by the *Spaniards*.

Though such Geniues are not always to *Geniuses* be depended upon, his Stratagem in defending himself with 700 Men against 2000, may deserve to be mentioned here, it having been omitted in a more proper Place. Upon Intelligence of their intended March, of 10 or 12 Miles through the Woods from *St. Simons*, where the *Spaniards* had landed in order to attack *Frederica*, he lay in Ambush; and a Defenter coming in to them, his Piece went off by Accident; upon which, says the General, That Fellow has ruined us, hang him up; but those who knew he was innocent, interceded for his Life: Then, replied the General, let him make his Escape; for he knows our Number to be few, and will say that they are so; and order'd a Letter to be wrote, by one suspected or known to correspond with the Enemy, setting forth the Strength of the Garrison to be double what it was; and that a Reinforcement of Militia, *Indians*, &c. equal to that double Force, was hourly expected; which Letter, it is said, was carried

carried to the *Spaniards*, by a Desperado, hired for that Purpose, and that upon Receipt thereof, they hanged the other, and decamped.

But to return:—Mr. *Stephens* made great Allowance for Kings, though some in *England* had brought Troubles upon themselves, which they might have avoided; particularly he, that lost his Head, would not have suffer'd by the Hands of those Blood-thirsty Men, who trampled on his Dignity, in *that* Manner which he did, if he had been regardless of the Prerogative or Bulwark against the many-headed Monster, that intestine Foe to the Peace of these Realms, the Spirit of Democracy:—That his Son *Charles's* Reign might have been more tranquil, if he had paid due Regard to his Prerogative, and been more just than witty:—That his Brother might have reigned longer, had he not been obstinate in a *foolish* Affair, which few about him had any Regard for:—That, if the *Deliverer* had returned Home without a Crown, he would not have felt a Thorn in it; and that he ought to have humour'd the Dissenters in every Thing, tho' they would have

have been as content with Nothing : — And that if his weak Sister-in-law had continued and protracted the War, in which he had engaged, no Body knows the Result ; or how great the Advantage would have been, even to those who hated her, as much as she loved her Country.

The Errors and Omissions of these in our own Nation are too conspicuous to pass unheeded : Though he thought that a Kingdom often suffer'd more from the *base Contrivances of its own Natives*, than from the Monarch, on whom the Blame falls ; and this might be exemplified in many Instances of some foreign Countries, but little known, and the less they are known the better, to this.

However, in further Defence of Monarchy and Monarchs ; suppose the King of one Country was invited to another ; and, for Instance, the last Scene, in *America*, bringing to Mind a barbarous People ; suppose the Sachem * of the *Hahnvahns*, or of any other outlandish Folk, was made to believe, by a Tribe of *Wheegulps*, that they would make

Y him

* Chief.

him a great King over the *Ingeelees*, and to rule in Peace; and suppose the former Part of his Reign to be disturbed both by the discontented *Wheegulps* and the *Teerooreeroos*; as also, that the very Heads of that Tribe, who invited him, did it ONLY TO SERVE PRIVATE INTEREST; and that therefore they regarded not him nor his Office so much as a *Post*: No Marvel then, if he discover'd a Hankering after his own Country, from whence they brought him, and where he could have more of his Will; or, it being the Object of his Wish and Desire, if he were to make it rich with the Spoils of a Strange People; or, in Case his antient Territories were to be invaded by the Nations of *Candanians*, *Hanganians*, the *Muskitovies* or *Sweevites*; if, to defend his own, he skinn'd all the Vermin, among so perverse a Generation, whether *Otters*, *Rats*, or *Badgers*; where would be the Surprize, or who could find Fault with it?

Mr. *Stephens* allowed Kings to have their Sympathies and Antipathies as well as other Men; tho' he held their Office so sacred, that,
let

let who would sit on the Throne, he would scarce so much as say the King was in the Wrong; but would have rose from his Grave at hearing the Beloved Man* of the *Ingeelees* say, it was for the good of their Country that their Skins should be sent to *Habrvahn*. He would have told him,

*One may speak with a Tully's Tongue,
And all the while be in the Wrong.*

Prior.

One might fancy a Dialogue, betwixt his Ghost and such a ghostly Patriot.

Gb. I am here to tell you, that tho' this War, carried on for the Sake of the *Habrvahn's* Country, should prove successful, you will injure your own; and therefore do you wage War, and that a mighty one, with the *Candanians* only, who want to take your Country from you; by which War you will be more enabled to assist the others.

Pa. The Fleets which I send out are vast, and I have more Men in Arms than they can muster in all *Candania*.

Y 2

Gb. But

* First in Council.

Gb. But you send great Fleets to take little Forts.

Pa. If I had sent such a Force against *Candania* as our Country might have done, it would have put so speedy an End to the War, that neither our Warriors nor Beloved Men would have reaped sufficient of that Glory in which is their Delight.

Gb. Your Expeditions miscarry sometimes, notwithstanding they are sent against trifling Places, unheard of almost 'till now.

Pa. I plan them well; but alas! our Men of War waste that Time in holding a Talk, which should be employed in making an Attack.

Gb. No Nation ever produced better Men, some few who encamp among the *Wiggwaams* *, excepted.

Pa. That's very true indeed; but loving Command for the Sake of a glorious Shew, these very Warlike Men will have it; and, behind the Screen of the
old

* A House in the Singular, and their Words, being few, a Town in the Plural Number.

old Wiggwaam, where all the Beloved Men hold their Talk, are of too great Consequence to themselves, to be controlled by me.

Gb. If you had pulled down that old *Wiggwaam*, and erected a new one in the Manner you talkt of, they would have had no Screen there.

Pa. It being built after the Model of a famous great Architect, in the Time of our Sachem's Father, and commodious for holding a Talk foreign to the Interest of the *Ingeelees*, he would not permit it.

Gb. If you had insisted upon that, as much as your coming into Place, it had not been denied you.

Pa. The old Builders being against it, I was afraid to undertake it of myself.

Gb. There is no Want of Artificers, whose Assistance you may depend upon.

Pa. But had I proceeded against the Will of the Sachem in pulling down the old *Wiggwaam*, he would have employed another Builder, and I should have lost my Place perhaps.

Gb. You

Gb. You would have preserved the Affections of the Nation of *Ingeelees* though.

Pa. Without Sal— there is no Saviour.

Gb. That's confessing you don't design to die a Martyr to your Country.

Pa. I believe it is best to prop the old *Wiggwaam* till ——

Gb. It falls about your Ears. You talk * like a Warrior, and act like a Pappusch†.

Pa. Why, since a Report has been spread, that I humm'd the Old Squaah ‡, and humpt || the Young-one |||, some of the Builders, whom I should employ, are said to be grown shy.

Gb. The old Woman is too good to be abused, tho' credulous and unhappy in a giddy, idle Daughter, who betrayed her Vanity in the Days of *Skeefen* §. But as you have taken from her what you can't restore, the best and only Recompence

* Than which, nothing is more contemptible in the Eyes of an *Indian*.

† Child.

‡ Woman or Wife. [D——s of M——l——b.]

|| Well understood in *Drury-lane* and *St. Giles's*.

||| The Tories.— See the late Simile.

§ See Fol. 44.

pence you can make is to marry her. And for the future, say no more of what you *will* do, but what you *have* done. Waste not her Wealth, nor destroy her Mother's Sons in mad Schemes and Enterprizes, as ill concerted as conducted; by which, and Love of Borrowing, the *York-Buildings* Company became Bankrupts when their real Capital exceeded all their Debts. Remember, as a sad Example, how great the *Georgian* Hero might have been among mortal Men, when he took his Station in the Moon: Mark him tumbling out, and how much beneath them he after fell; when as heedless of Credit, as regardless of Blood and Treasure, (instead of extending his Territories to *Moubille*, as by this Time he might have done,) he decamped with an Army of Spectres, which haunt the Brains of ambitious Men; till, bewildered, they are lost in Pursuit of Fame.—— Regard not idle Tales, nor harbour Fears as idle: But
be

be bold and fear not ; down with the old *Wiggwaam*, it is not yet too late ; and there is no Want of Hands who will help thee to set up a new one. Let the Building be plain and open, without Party-wall or Screen. The Materials must be all of *Ingeeleean* Growth, the Heart quite sound and untouch'd : Be it without paltry Ornaments or tawdry Gilding, and without Flowers which harbour Insects and heterogenous Animals, filthy corrupted Vermin.— Let not the Building be narrow, but spacious enough to receive all the contending Tribes. There do thou make and keep Peace among them. Teach the Tribe of *Wheegulps* Honesty, and the Tribe of *Teerooreeroos* Wisdom. For Beloved Men chuse those whose Hearts are * strait ; and they will find thee chosen Warriors to vanquish foreign Foes ; as thou wilt do domestic, without Ax or Halter, or turning out for the Sake of

* True.

few delicate Triflers, it was likewise his Opinion too, that the People are still so far themselves, that the Laburer is as strong, the Husbandman as diligent, the Merchant as bold, the Soldier as brave, the Seaman as intrepid, the Studious as learned, the Gentleman as agil, and the Fair as virtuous, as in any Nation or Country whatever.

But, at the same Time, he foretold that some Vices which were creeping in would be the Overthrow of us too soon; and in particular, Avarice, the Attendant of the Voluptuous and Luxurious as well as the Penurious, as Hypocrisy is of Avarice; for, whoever ventures his own Money at Play, covets another's, whether he wants it or not; and he that covets will not loose an Advantage; and, if such a Man will cheat his Companion, he is avaricious.

If then a Man of Education becomes so abandoned to this Vice, that he will stake his Fortune to ruin his Friend, he will sell his Country to retrieve his Fortune, and
though

West-Indies, when he was the best Man who could eat most; but the Project failed, because they died in the Passage, and not because of the Expence.

though perhaps, at first, he may receive a
Check from his Monitor,

*Some Voice of God close whisp'ring from
within ;*

Wretch ! this is Villainy, and this is Sin !

Pope.

Yet Conscience once laid quiet, the Sin grows too familiar for him to make a Boggle at any Thing for the Sake of Gain ; and he goes on, in Sight of Servants, to whom Admonition are not wanting, and of Children, on whom no Expence is spared for a virtuous Education ; but ——— what an Example !

And he thought the Case was pretty much the same with all who played the Game, whether of St. *St—n's*, or St. *Ar—r's* ; to one of which the Spendthrift and the more fordid Miser are equally addicted ; and he that will persevere in any one Respect, knowing himself to be wrong, is not to be trusted in any other.

If a Chance at one of these Seminaries happens to finish what Horse-racing, Build-
Z 2 ing,

ing, Gardening, Routing, and Drumming, together with Dress, Equipage, Furniture and other Vanities have left undone; the Other is as open to him as to One, who, under the Mask of Frugality, goes for the same End, and with the same View of Gain, in order to gratify some particular Pleasure.

Suppose a Midshipman was to walk the Quarter-Deck in a speckled Shirt and Trowsers, he might think it sufficient that he did his Duty; but it might be expected too, that, as he was better paid, he should be better dressed than a Man before the Mast; as he would for Distinction or Decency Sake, if he did not intend to spend his Pay in Drinking, Wenching, or some idle Vanities ashore. And so, if a thrifty C—— of E—— was no more to fill his Office than when he was an Apprentice there; it might be presumed, tho' he would *do as he was bid*, that some Vanity, such as Title, or Badge and String, without Merit, induced him to save his Pay. As a Gentleman of the Law observed, if a Student came into Court a Sloven in the Morning, that he was a Beau at Night.

Or,

Or, if a L—— of T——, with a small Estate, was troubled with the Distemper of Building, it is most likely that he would think fit at last to yield, in order to obtain *Relief*.

And if a S——y likewise, of exalted Ideas was fatigued, with planning Expeditions of Wheelbarrows, he would comply, for the Sake of relaxing in the delightful Amusement of Walks and Shades, Fruits and Rivers, beheld from the Mount he had raised; where, from blowing *hot* and *cold* he enjoyed a sweet Breeze, with a Prospect unbounded, of Ships occupying great Waters, and Armies fighting in foreign Countries.

If Play were confined to St. *Ar——r*'s, and the like, it might be only changing the Property of a few Profligates, which would fall into the Hands of the Industrious; but when the Contagion spreads to such a Degree, that, being countenanced by turning a great Seat of Wisdom into a Gaming-house, the Vice of Covetousness is caught by every County, City and Borough in the Kingdom: And, if the Mask be laid aside, and he is
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the best Man that gets or spends most, what a Corruption of Manners must ensue, when Luxury, with Covetousness, Hypocrisy and its other attendant Vices, become as general among the Ignorant, as they are already among the Knowing!

He thought of Nations as of Women, that they do not become abandoned to Prostitution at once; but that Modesty, of which there is a Species, though different, in both Sexes, being once lost, there is as little Sense of Honour and Credit left in the one, as of Virtue and Reputation in the other; and that, tricking as trick can, for the Support of their Vanities, they vie in Fraudulency, till a Man cannot trust his Neighbour.

Mr. *Stephens* was indeed as superstitious in political as in religious Affairs; and reflecting upon the State of the Nation, as well as upon the Dispositions of the People, he was of Opinion that it would fall, tho' it might rise again out of its own Ashes; for that neither the Strength, Diligence, Agility, Bravery, Intrepidity, or Learning of the Men, will any more defend us against the fatal Consequences

quences of Bribery, than Hypocrisy will against Avarice, or the Beauty of the Fair against an Enemy in open Arms.

He often said, that amidst all the Wealth and Grandeur of this Nation, it would be brought to Straits; from advanced Rents to support the Landlord's Extravagance in Town; from the Luxury of the Pedant in the Country, and from the Taxes, for Payment of Interests and Support of Government; which all together, would raise the Price of our Commodities; till, by a Decay of Trade, the Publick would be as unable to borrow as to pay.

He said, moreover, that the Nation might be brought to this Pass by contending (*injudiciously*) with Enemies for the Sake of defending our Friends; for that after our Enemy, ruined already in our Imagination, found the Debt was sufficient to embarrass *All* the *Change-Alley* Men, an *honourable* Peace would be worth a Million of Louisdores, of which he doubted not their Skill to apply; and the more so, as it might create a War among Ourselves.

And,

And, if it came to that, a Stagnation of Credit would occasion a Sort of Poverty, of which our Enemies might avail themselves, as our Friends have done of our Riches; for Murmuring will succeed Discontent, as That does Poverty, till Complaints are brought on; and Disputes running high, for and against the Accused, till Parties are multiplied, Truth and Falshood will be so blended, that nothing but the Doctrine of *Justification* will be believed; when it may be thought expedient to encourage the Preachers thereof, for diverting a Storm in order to be *saved*; and, Families being at Variance, from such a Kind of Democracy, such Confusion may proceed, as will disable the Nation from ever expending another Hundred Millions, in Defence of the good old Cause to which they may owe their Ruin; unless it should happen, as it often does in private Life, that a Nation, once become Bankrupt, may obtain fresh Credit, and be trusted with more Confidence than before.

But the Building being so large, that *Robert of Norfolk* a stout *Plebèian*, who could
pull

pull down the Pride of a Priest, or level a Noble, only shook the Foundation, and left one Part leaning against the other Two; therefore a total Demolition of the Fabrick may not happen, till Scandal passes for Wit, and a Grin for good Breeding; till Modesty is become a Laughing-stock and Plain-dealing ill Manners; till Silence is mistaken for Harmony, and Despondency for Unanimity; till the Government lies in neither the King, Nobles, nor People; No, nor till Fraud passes for Wisdom, and Merchants turn Counsellors; till Honesty be thought Folly, and Statesmen become Traders; till Avarice is a Virtue, and Nobles turn Sharpers; till Hypocrisy passes for Religion, and Princes become Methodists; Nor, in a Word, till Money buys ALL, and Kings turn Usurers. However, when there shall be a Concurrence of these Incidents, All may seem right in the Eyes of the THREE Patriots, renowned for *Justice, Wisdom, and Resolution.*

MR. STEPHENS, being of a Disposition for an active, rather than a sedentary Life,

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and engaging in Business whilst young, made no very great Advancement in Learning; and the greatest Part of his Time being taken up in publick Employments, he had but few Leisure-hours to spare, either for Study or Reading, after he left the University; neither had he a Taste for some Branches, in which both his Brother and Son excelled him; particularly the Metaphysics and Philosophy, and such others as to him seemed to be of more Use in Schools, than out of them, unless applicable to particular Sciences; allowing what is called universal Knowledge to but very few in Business: And his Taste being rather to dwell with the *Living*, than to converse with the *Dead*, he did not penetrate so far into the Study of Divinity, as to question the Existence of a Deity, or to deny the Miracles of our Saviour, whose Precepts were the Rule of his Life.

He was not, however, so ignorant either of the Civil or Common Laws of his own Country, nor such a Stranger to the Fundamentals in Government, or the Policy of different

ferent Countries, laid down by Historians ancient or modern, as to be unqualified for greater Employments than he ever aspired to; and as he studied Men more than Things, and Matter more than Words, he made himself useful wherever he went. Tho' he was seldom at a Loss for what to say, yet he was careless as to the Manner in which he expressed himself; and so little Regard had he to the Power of Language, that he never aimed at it; nor would he affect to talk much upon Business, or to assume more than his Share in Company. In Writing, likewise, he never preferred Method to Substance, as in the Stile of the several preceding Specimens may be easily perceived, since he studied only to be understood; however, he was so accurate and exact, as, by some, to be thought prolix. He often said, that his Pen would not keep Pace with his Thoughts, though he made great Dispatch; and so correct was he, that he would write Sheets without striking out a Word, and whole Quires without striking out a Line: Indeed, his great Abilities wanted a larger Sphere of Action.

No Man, perhaps, notwithstanding, was more cautious of his Words, as well in speaking as in Writing; for, though he made too sure of the Matter to stand in Need of Retraction; yet an Error of less Consequence gave him no small Uneasiness, which created a Diffidence of some of those Abilities that often turn to the Advantage of Orators; and seeing quaint Speakers sometimes at a Loss, and often in Need of Help, as well those in the Secret as others, he seldom troubled the *House of Commons* with what he could not demonstrate in few Words.

From his Behaviour, considered in the three Stages into which his Life is divided, and his steady Adherence to Truth, one might be induced to imagine, that he would neither accept of a great Employment *to do as he was bid*, break his Word for the Sake of the *best Men in the City* or fear to make the Use intended of a Power given him by the People—once of a Mind!

And by his Oeconomy in private Affairs, as well as in publick, it might be supposed, that he would not think the giving 7000 *l.* to

to save the Nation 100,000 *l. per Ann.* so well worth the Attention of the Publick, as the giving 500,000 *l.* to an Ally for Contingences, or as the advancing the like Sum to a Commissary, where a much larger might be dispensed with; especially as the Wisdom of our Conduct in *America*, is a Proof, that all must be right which is done in *Germany*, where a War is most miraculously grown out of *Ohio*, and not from any Attachment whatever, that is foreign to the Interest of this Nation.

Though he was punctual to his Word, and so easy of Access to the poorest, that he never disappointed, or kept any Body in Suspence; yet he was not such a Slave to others, but he would keep People to their Time, that he might have some to himself: And, being no great Worldling, he would relax, it may be said, rather than indulge: Particularly in Eating and Drinking; for at Breakfast he was abstemious, seldom exceeding two Dishes, and those mostly of Coffee. At Dinner, he fed heartily on something plain, and had done quickly; saying, when others

others were enjoying themselves at Trencher-work, " I wish I could live without it : " As to Supper, he ate none ; taking a Pipe of Tobacco and a Draught of Ale only, before he went to Rest ; so temperate was he in all Things, the Use of Tobacco only excepted ; for, besides a Pipe, early in the Morning, and another the last Thing at Night, he would smoak as many in the Day as he could afford Time for, but without a Drop of Liquor ; for though he could drink hard, and sit up late, they were neither of them his Choice ; nor would he do either so far as to be discomposed the next Day ; of which he was seldom in any great Danger, as the first Disorder he found from Wine, was a Loathing at the Sight of others, intoxicated by drinking to Excess.

Mr. *Stephens* had, doubtless, a very strong Constitution, being scarce ever sick in his Life. Tho' he was rather of a large Stature, yet, as to his Person, he was handsome enough, and his Complexion and Countenance were florid and open ; he was a Gentleman of so great Vivacity, and so quick a Sensation, that
it

it was with Difficulty he could conceal such of his Passions, as were predominant, particularly Love and Joy, or their Opposites, Anger and Grief; and having none of the diabolical Faculties, such as Revenge, Envy, or Avarice, he was the less solicitous of appearing in that Disguise, which is necessary to compass GREAT Designs; but this laid him open to the DESIGNING; for as he meant no Harm himself, he was the less suspicious of any Artifice or clandestine Proceedings in others, especially such as he mistook for Men of HONOUR. And therefore, entertaining too favourable an Opinion of those he conversed with, he engaged too far in their Affairs; for, when once he was convinced that he was right in the Object, his Warmth of Temper prompted him to pursue it, without Regard to Persons and Times, though not to Circumstances; of which, indeed, none can judge *properly* but the *Profound*.

These untoward Qualities proved his Undoing in the End; for, not being formed for our GREAT Employments, he neither could manage a Borough with Judgment, nor even
betray

betray his Friend to promote the Interest of his *own* — as he might have done, and not left them Beggars, if he ———
———*had a Wish so mean as to be GREAT.*

HE had seven Sons and two Daughters; of which *William* the eldest, who has been occasionally mentioned in the Course of this History, discovered a Propensity to Learning when at a Grammar-school at *Newport*; from whence he was sent to *Winchester*, where he distinguished himself again; and afterwards to *Queen's-College* in *Oxford*, from whence he was elected Fellow of *All-Souls*; and being brought up in the Civil-Law-Line, he made a Proficiency in the Study of it, and took the Degree of Doctor of Laws; tho' Divinity was always his Choice; which, in Duty to his Father he laid aside, greatly against his Inclination, and not without much Entreaty.

Accordingly, being entered of the *Temple*, he applied himself to the Common Law, and was called to the Bar; when, knowing the Particulars of his Father's Circumstances, he
commended

commended his Wisdom in bringing him up to that Profession; not only because the Chance he had, of rising in it, was greater than that of his Preferment in the Church; but because he might be more at Liberty to make the most of the Estate which was then left; tho' it happened too late; for, as their Poverty became apparent, they were deserted by their *Friends*; and being involved in the Affairs of the Family, to whom he was a Father in their Troubles, he was interrupted in his Practice, which he had followed with no less Perseverance than Reluctance: Until, at last, he gave the following Reasons to his Father, who was grieved, for his changing his Bar-Gown into that of a Canonical one, so long wish'd for; of which they neither of them had so good an Opinion, in general, as of the Lawyers; whose Pomp the Son made merry with, on Sight of their Procession to *Westminster-Hall*, saying, "if I don't get so much, I don't spend so much."

"Tho' the Law (said he) is an honourable Profession; yet a strong Constitution

" is absolutely necessary to rise or get rich
 " in it; besides which, either a large Inte-
 " rest, or a good Acquaintance with great
 " Attornies is indispenfibly requisite. The
 " First I never had; the Second, if it ever
 " existed, is lost; and, not having attained
 " the Third, I never made much above a
 " hundred Pounds in any one Year of the
 " twelve of my Practice; tho' I have atten-
 " ded the Circuits, and been stewing every
 " Term in Courts, where the very Town is
 " my Aversion. And this is the Case with
 " many others of superior Abilities, who
 " drudge on, and hackney out their whole
 " Lives to as little Purpose, as I have alrea-
 " dy done the best Part of mine."

In 1736, he was ordained at *Wells*, in or-
 der to his Qualification for a Curacy, at *Cleve*
 in *Somersetshire*, which he undertook only
 during the Life of an infirm Incumbent;
 from thence he went to another at *Lockinge*
 in *Berkshire*, likewise for a Time; and after
 that to one at *Hafely* in *Oxfordshire*; from
 whence he commenced Vicar of *Barking* in
Essex, in the Gift of the College of *All-Souls*,
 which

which fell to him in 1746, upon the Death of Mr. *Owen*, his Predecessor and Fellow-collegian; where he officiated, till seized with a Fever, in a bad Habit of Body, which got the Ascendant over him after many Years Struggle, and dying on the 27th of *January* 1750, in the 53d Year of his Age, he was interr'd in the Church-yard there, according to his Desire.

This Man inherited all his Father's Virtues, to which he added a greater Command of Temper than the other; who (as before observed) was never taught to check it, by those who had studied more to please than to improve him.

The first Part of his Life was spent in a close Application to Books, particularly in both moral and divine Philosophy; which, with the Knowledge of Men that he had acquired, made him as fit to live (tho' not to get Money) in this World, as he was prepared for another. These enabled him to bear up under his Misfortunes with such Patience and Fortitude; that if the Motto, *O Pater omnipotens fiat Voluntas tua sicut in Cælo, sic*

etiam in Terrâ, which he prefixed to his Will, was not for ever before his Eyes, it was deeply imprinted on his Heart; for his Troubles came upon him much heavier than he expected, when about Thirty Years of Age; inasmuch that great Part of his Time was employed ever after in Endeavours to support and provide for the Rest of the Family; which he thought more incumbent on him than to prosecute the Study of Divinity, his great Delight. He therefore left very little of his Compositions behind him, ordering in his Will, that all his Manuscript Sermons should be burnt; which his Executor might have spared without a Crime, as they had gained him the Applause of learned Audiences and full Churches.

He was of a moderate Stature, and his Body rather thin than corpulent; his Complexion was dark-brown; his Nose prominent, and his Eyes lively; he was very active, tho' his Constitution was never strong; which was hurt, and his Health greatly impair'd by a too severe Application to his Studies in his Youth; he was sprightly, and, tho' serious,

serious, rather chearful than grave, being never affected with the Spleen; he was always very abstemious in his Diet and moderate in all Things, from a Study of the Passions; and tho' his own were very strong, Compassion and Benevolence were predominant; which endear'd him to his Parishioners so far, that his most intimate Friends and Relations could not lament his Loss, with greater Affection: For all of them esteemed him as an agreeable Companion, a sincere Friend, a good Neighbour, an excellent Preacher, a dilligent Pastor, and a pious Christian; and, in a Word, One who was strictly just, and truly generous.—Poor Qualifications for Preferment!

MR. STEPHENS left no other Children of such Note as to merit a Place in this History, though they were a Family, it must be allowed, as little addicted to Vice as most, except the ambitious *Oliverian* Doctor, who stoop'd for the Estate: And therefore, notwithstanding neither his Avarice nor Hypocrisy were so remarkable, but that he might

might even now, have passed among those who do pass for *a good Sort of Men*; yet it must be confessed that his Worship appears to have been fitly qualified to serve in any Times.

And now the Family is nearly extinct, there being very few left, except the two Daughters of the Physician, who are in Possession of antient *Cook Crouch*, it being the almost only Part of the Estate which the Family is at present possessed of, and returned to the *Richard's* again, in whose Name it stood in the Time of *Awdrey*, and who were then the elder Branch: For tho' the Children of Mr. *Stephens's* Daughter are taken Care of, yet those of his youngest Son, three Orphans in *Georgia*, are left Minors, to be fed by him who feeds the Ravens. Thanks to the Times; and to the Conduct of Mr. *Legge*, of Lord *Halifax*, and of Mr. *Pitt*; or otherwise the Duke of *Newcastle* would have saved them, by doing Service to his Country.

APPENDIX

A P P E N D I X

TO THE

H I S T O R Y

OF

WILLIAM STEPHENS, Esq;

late of the *Isle of Wight*.

WITH

Further REASONS for Writing it.

A P P E N D I X.

The IR-REVIEWABLE CASTLE-BUILDERS to the REVIEW-ER: Or, An Answer to the Critical Review, on that Author.

HA V I N G waited in vain, expecting to hear from you, on the score of Chastisement threatened, since advertising myself to be forth coming to any body, it is necessary thus to vindicate the History of Mr. Stephens, from the Aspersions of your last Piece of Criticism in the Month of June; where you are pleased to begin and end as follows:

This is one of the many Books, which has the Misfortune not to be Reviewable (a). It contains the History of a private Gentleman, who, it seems, was first in Parliament upon
C c the

(a) The Reviewer gives his Opinion of this Performance as if, at least, it was perusable. If the Critic did read it, he offends with his Eyes open.—If Sentence is pronounced without Book, his Wisdom is equal to that of him, *whose Heart is in his Mouth.*

the *Tory* Interest (*b*); and the Whole of it is a Commentary upon the following Apothegm, which is here a Burthen to almost every Chapter of the Book, *That Party is a Contrivance only to serve private Interest* (*c*).

Mr. *Stephens*, it seems, found it soon (*d*); being abandoned by the *Tories*, he fell low in

(*b*) That He was a private Gentleman *first* in Parliament upon the *Tory* Interest, is a base Insinuation, that the poor Man, now in his Grave, did afterwards change Sides, and act against Conscience, or without Principle; notwithstanding the whole serves to prove the contrary, and that he sacrificed his Fortune and Family in a Cause which he thought was just. See fol. 25, 37, 43, 48, 78, &c.

(*c*) In a Volume, upwards of 200 Pages, divided into seven Chapters, of which five are found to end with a Reflection, *That Party is a Contrivance only to serve private Interest*, which will be found extremely just. It is submitted, whether it might not with as much Propriety have been said, they are the *Conclusion*, instead of the *Burthen*, of so many Chapters, unless *Conclusion* and *Burthen* are synonymous; as a Man may be said to be finished, who sinks under his Load; and it must be granted, that the offensive Apothegm may be heavily felt by *some* Party-men, *i. e.* *Tories*; though but five times repeated in the whole Book.

(*d*) It is next said by the Critic, that Mr. *Stephens*, it seems, soon found that Reflection true. The Author thinks, it *seems* the Reverse; as in fol. 49, it is said, That he had been unguarded against playing upon the Square, among men of Honour—That the Game was at an End, when his All was gone.—Fol. 52, That he was ignorant of the Maxim, There is no Friendship in Trade,

in his Circumstances (*e*), and was provided for by the *Whigs*, in the Service of the *York-building* Company, by whom he was sent to superintend some of their Works in the *Highlands* of *Scotland* (*f*). Upon that Company's being blown up, he was reduced to very low Circumstances (*g*). He went over as a kind

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of

Trade. And fol. 53, That he was sensible of his Error too late. And if it be considered likewise, that he sat 26 Years in Parliament without giving so much as a Shilling for his Seat, or going from the Principle upon which he set out, it may be presumed that he did not find it soon.

(*e*) That he was abandoned by the *Tories*, and fell low in his Circumstances, is a most diabolical counterposition of the Words, and Perversion of the Sense; it being proved to a Demonstration, over and over, That he was not abandoned by the *Tories*, until he fell low in his Circumstances; and not till then did they so cruelly and shamefully desert him, who spent his Estate to serve their Cause.

(*f*) That he was provided for by the *Whigs*, is another false Suggestion; for it does not any where appear that he was ever provided for by them, or in their Service; tho' it be said, fol. 54. That *Whigs*, more grateful and generous than his *Tory* Friends, made him again useful to Mankind; alluding to those whom he had done singular Service to, in a private Capacity, as he had done to his Friends and Acquaintance, with whom he could keep Company, without revolting from his Principle, (as those are mighty apt to do who mightily dread their Neighbour;) and without that Eye to Gain, which seldom fails among those, who are more fond of keeping up Distinctions so odious.

(*g*) The whole Book proving the Crime of Poverty against

of Clerk, Agent, or Accomptant, or all three, to *Georgia* (*b*), where he died in an advanced Age, and great Poverty (*i*). The writer of his Life has treated General *Oglethorpe*, the Father of that Colony, with an Indecency that calls for Chastisement (*k*). Notwithstanding

against Mr. *Stephens*, which happened by serving his *Tory Friends*, the Critic has a sufficient Warrant for the Allegation, tho' perhaps not for such a Repetition, as if he were setting out to ring the Changes upon the following Syllables, *he fell low and was reduced*. This could not be a favourite Theme; for the very same Guilt did hang about Him, it seems, at the Hour of Writing; when yawning and shrugging, whilst he was huddling over a great Number of Words, to come at a small Number of Pence; for filling up the last sixpenny, I would say, twelvepenny Bundle, it has produced such a String of Errata, as not to be seen but at the End of his own laborious Work.

(*b*) That he went as Clerk, Agent, or Accomptant to *Georgia*, is false, nor can it be said with more Propriety, than that a Secretary is a Merchant, or a Governor a Secretary.—Such a reviewing Pen is a Reproach to the meanest Tribe of Scribblers.

(*i*) For the one genuine Truth remarked, That he died poor, little Thanks are due, as Pains are taken throughout to brand with Poverty that Name, whose Honesty is in vain attempted to be impeached; nor does that Remark altogether agree with some things foregoing; for had he served the *Whigs*, he would not have died so.

(*k*) As to General *Oglethorpe*, there is no more said against that Gentleman, than what has been urged at the Bar of the *House of Commons*, and elsewhere, nor more than was necessary in the Course of the History,

in

ing this, we will venture to pronounce, that as the Work seems to be published upon a charitable Account (1), the *General* will concur with us in wishing that as many of the Books may be sold as may answer the Purpose of the Publication.

And now as there *seems* to be only one great Error; and not a Falsity in the History, and

in which the Author scorns meanly to speak Evil of him behind his Back, as the Critic does of the Dead; and it is well known too, that he is as much above taking Advantage, either of the Absence or Misfortunes of that unhappy Father of the Colony, who yet lives to drink deeply of the bitter Cup, which to his Children he administered so freely; of which an Abhorrence of Calumny will suffer no more to be said. And what but Disdain of Partiality? What but Justice, Love, and Pity, could induce the Author to record such praise of the *General*, as in fol. 167, upon no better Authority than that of two Gentlemen who happened to be great, only in Office next under him? This is an Error, it must be granted; and, as it is to be wished it may not prove a Blot in the Book, be silent, good Mr. Critic, and allow one Virtue to be ascribed, to that one Man, whom you *seem* to love.

(1) The Book was not published upon a charitable Account; tho' it seems that he wishes it suppressed; or possibly it would have been treated otherwise than it is, and the Bookseller's name too, being not a very long one, have been mentioned, tho' not for him printed. However, if sincere, it may be a Pleasure for him now to hear, that his Wish is fulfilled with respect to its Sale, in spite of a Sneer which a *Grub-street* Witling would blush at.

and only one solid Truth in the Criticism, the Critic must grant the former to stand the Test; and therefore more of this, together with further Reasons for the writing of that Life, will be a supplement to the next Edition; unless, instead thereof, you more than *seem* to acknowledge our Transgression which favours more of the literary Assassin, than of the *Christian* or Gentleman; but trusting that you have Candour enough to retract what you have advanced, as well to injure a Character, too bright for your Pen to stain, as to take from the Merit of a Work that bids it Defiance, the Recantation is left to be drawn up by yourself; provided it appears in Terms suitable, in your next Monthly Lucubration. As you behave, so will be the Conduct of

The Author of the Castle-Builders.

July 9, 1759.

WHATEVER Liberties Critics may take, surely Truth ought to be sacred with the Historian; and therefore with an inviolable Attachment to it was the foregoing Life wrote; in which are the Names of several Persons mentioned, as they naturally occurred,
some

some to their Honour, some to their Dishonour, as they merited; and without the malevolent Design of that Criticism, which not only exposes such Faults as there may be, but invents others, where there are none, in order to suppress that Work which they cannot be-foul. This is the Case of the Critical Review, done by a Society of *Gentlemen*; as a poor *Highlander* stiles himself in the number of, and often with more Reason.

But as those *Gentlemen*, are unknown and neither their Printer or Publisher will produce any of them, these Remarks are adressed to them as the Author; and it must be further observed, that their Resentment of the Mention made of General *Oglethorpe*, brings to mind some Passages in a late History of *England*, much talked of, and mightily puffed by the Publishers, tho' little commended by the Readers. And as it may have the Misfortune to be the Work of one of the *Gentlemen* Critics, so is it not without its Imperfections; and in particular as Characters are frequently drawn and for the most part, with *Freedom*.

General

General Oglethorpe's being stiled Governor of Georgia*, might have been an Inaccuracy, as he had no such Commission; if he had not been Governor *de facto*, by virtue of a military Commission, not exercised in a civil Manner; but neither his Behaviour as such, nor as Commander in chief at the siege of St. *Augustin*, are Proofs of that Bravery, Generosity, and Humanity ascribed to him elsewhere; and which being opposite to what has been said in the foregoing Sheets, it is left for the Public to decide; without more said in the Absence of a Gentleman, whose

—*wild Ambition well deserves its Woe.* Pope.

But, as Characters are not to be depended upon; so neither is any Part of a History to be believed, if any one Fact it contains is manifestly false. In this, 'tis true however, that Printer and Publisher may be concerned only as Venders of Falshood; but in the Review they stand as Inventors and Publishers of Scandal, with which it so abounds, that 'tis often complimented with —What? Do you read that!

* Small-t's History Vol. the last, fol. 606.

IT having been thought necessary to insert the foregoing Remarks on the Criticism of a Society of Gentlemen, as it is called; so likewise it may not be amiss, to give some further Reasons for writing the Life of Mr. Stephens; which was designed, not only to vindicate his injured Name, but to transmit to Posterity, an Instance of an almost matchless Virtue, in a Patriot without Ostentation; of which the Monthly Review takes Notice in a handsome manner; to shew the Wisdom and Justice of Providence, in directing an Estate to be spent in the Service of a Country, in which it was, by the divine Hand, permitted to be got by the Spoils of that same Country, to refute the damnable Doctrine so prevalent, since broached by One who boasted, that he could seduce any Man; to admonish the unwary, who waste their precious Time in servilely cringing for a gilded Yoke; to put them in mind of the Miseries which they entail upon their own Families, whilst they are sporting with the Fortunes

of others; to animate some, in this Age and Deluge of Corruption, with an Example of Self-denial; and to inspire the Minds of others with the Sentiments of HIM, who sacrificed himself in his Country's Cause, without the Affectation of it; of HIM who was more ashamed of doing wrong, than of being poor; and more afraid of doing ill than of suffering death; of HIM whom neither Riches or worldly Grandeur would tempt to betray a publick Trust, or to deceive his Neighbour; nor warp his Duty to Man, or his Faith in God. 'Tis pity but the Task had fallen to an able Pen, though the bare and simple Relation of his Character is said, by some, even in this Age of Profligacy, to be a Panegyric which exceeds the glittering Power, false Honour, frothy Titles, and sordid Wealth of his Tempters, long since laid low; as shortly will be their Successors, whether Chancellor, Lord, or Secretary.

C H A P. II.

Mr. Stephens's supposed Conduct, as a Patriot Minister; and the Advantages to be expected from the present War.

IT is as well known in whatever Place Mr. Stephens lived, and in whatever Capacity he acted, that Justice, Fidelity, and Gratitude were the characteristics by which he was ever distinguished; as that Injustice, Treachery, and Avarice are the Characters of those, between whom a Parallel might be drawn and him; who never threw up an Employment, with a sinister View only of hectoring himself into one more lucrative; who never gave up a Cause which he undertook, nor promised what he did not perform; who was never biaſſed by any pecuniary View, nor received a Reward at the hands of the Seducer.

It may therefore be presumed, that if he had been placed upon the highest Pinnacle of Power, by the Voice of a People, he would

have been true to his King, and to that greatest of Trusts reposed in him; without Dread of a Ministry, Nobility, or Elector; and without Hope of rising, or Fear of falling; though his Estate had been so small, as barely to have qualified him for a Seat that he would keep only to do good in.

Thus armed with Virtue, he would have banished Vice, Corruption would have fled, and Luxury been totally abolished. Unacquainted with the Maxim *divide and rule*, or the Practice of making Places for Men instead of getting fit Men for Places of Trust, he would at once have dissolved a Parliament had it consisted of a corrupt Majority; he would have made the Qualifications of Voters greater, and the Numbers of Placemen less; Salaries too would have been reduced, and not *augmented*, or he would have declined the high Office to which he had been promoted.

If to this it had been objected, that it was not a proper Time—nor could it be done all at once—He would say it was always a proper time to do right, and never so to do otherwise.

If

If his Promotion had opportunely happened, immediately after Supplies were granted for carrying on a just War, he would have pushed it with Vigour; whilst the People themselves elected a Parliament of such Majority as would quickly dispel the gloomy Aspect of a corrupt Faction; who would ever afterwards be more attentive to the Oeconomy of their own private Concerns, than grasping at Power, for the sake of distributing and squandering the public Treasure in support of Luxury. A pretty arduous Task too, where a People were become so generally depraved, that few were without either some Connection with, or Expectation from baneful Corruption, be it ever so distant; as for that Reason Treachery had no Want of Advocates, and the Opportunity slipped that was to happen but once to ONE Man, for retrieving all.

Mr. *Stephens* would have considered the Voice of a People as Power from the Almighty; and, without coming to Terms with the Mammon of Unrighteousness, he would have exercised it with Justice and Mercy,
and

and not have suffered Corruption to prevail, till all was swallowed up in Riot and Excess. But when One Man obeys not the Voice of God; and every one *enjoys his Liberty*, i. e. follows his own Invention, going astray without a Guide; when the Servant is Master, and he that should obey, commands; when Delinquents go unpunished in order to support one State at the Expence, if not the Ruin, of another; then does Vengeance threaten their Iniquities.

WAS it possible for *Charles I.* or *James II.* to exhaust the Wealth of this Nation in support of a foreign State, wrongheaded as they were? The First of these was accused of raising a little Money contrary to Law, and not of wickedly applying a great deal to unjust Purposes: And the Crime of the Other was forcing upon the People a Religion, for which he chose rather to abdicate his Crown, than to abjure it. Neither did aim at debauching their Morals, or exhausting their Wealth; but Posterity will ever bless the *glorious Revolution*,

volution, will never wish to see a *Stuart* upon the Throne of *Great-Britain*, nor an Orator at its Footstool; nor ever wish to be delivered from such an arbitrary Parliament as never was seen, by such an absolute Monarch as may be, for aught that is known, not far off: but this is in the Womb of Time, and who knows what that may produce? *Socrates* said, that he knew nothing; and another again remarked of him, that he was not sure that he knew even that: however, certain it is with every Man, that the more he knows, the more he is conscious of his own Ignorance. But be this as it may; no one can tell how soon a Bold One, with the help of a *proper* Parliament might settle the Affair of Liberty in any Country; nor deny that anything but the Bold One is wanting, among a People not so ignorant as *Socrates*. A sad Prognostic were their Manners! If so bereft as to extoll and magnify Acquisitions made, in return for Millions spent in Expeditions, which make a figure in a Gazette, promote the Trade of *Tallow-chandlers* and *Glaziers*, and furnish

Vauxhall

Vauxhall with a Song. Three things are ridiculous, and a fourth is an Abomination ; to shout before a Battle, to triumph after, and to run away from it ; but beyond them all, is the Cowardice of the Soldier, who will not fight at all.

LET the probable consequence of a War carried on, by those blaming one another, be considered ; and in particular the Advantages which might arise to *Britain*, from spending the Money of *Britons*, or the shedding of *British* blood in support of the *Protestant Religion* in *Germany* ; and if they are beyond the Comprehension of Common Sense, it must all be left to the consummate Wisdom of the Wise, praying that it may not turn out Foolishness. Consider too what may be, in some degree, interesting elsewhere ; and then it will be seen whether the effect of that Conduct, which does but little at a great Expence, is much more excellent than that which did less at a smaller ; but there is no more Medium in the Passions and Prejudices of the Multitude

Multitude, than in the Flux and Reflux of the Tide.

If that part of a War in which this Nation was more immediately concerned, was to be considered, if the destroying of a Harbour, at *Cherbourg* was supposed to be the only essential Service done upon the Coast of *France*; if the taking of the Shipping, *unexpected* at *Louisburgh*, and not that Fortrefs against which a great Armament was sent a second Time, was the greatest thing done in *America*; and if the Millions spent, were to be set against such Acquisitions, the Nation would be little beholden to the Projectors of such Conquests; for *Senegal Goree*, &c. are Objects unworthy of a great Nation engaged in a bloody and expensive War; and with *Pitsburgh*, they had no more to do, than with *Louisburgh*; which must have fallen into their Hands, upon the taking of *Quebeck*, the Capital; as might possibly have been done with little Addition; either to the same Force which took the other; or to that which had gone to hold Councils of War before it, the preceding Year.

IF it be said that the Trade of the Enemy is ruined; it might be answered, that it must be so, in the course of a War with a Nation more powerful at Sea; that they expected it, and that they gave it up accordingly, without being undone by the Loss of it. And moreover, as the Decay of Trade in one Country is the natural Cause of the Increase of it in another, it needs no Divining to bring it to pass; nor would any Thanks be due to the Wise Man, if, to these Advantages arising from Trade, were added the *great* Acquisitions of Forts and Islands taken, and they were ceded together with Fort St. *David's* and *Minorca*; as, besides the Expences of such fruitful Expeditions, it is not questioned whether the Ballance of a whole Trade, carried on the World over, is, all together, equal to the Money sent to and expended on *H——r*.

But it's enough that as many as were ignorant of it might think so; as it might be, that, so long as there was a Garrison at *Louisburgh*, it would be difficult for the Enemy to get up
so

to *Quebeck*; and that as soon as in Possession of it, not a *Frenchman* nor *Indian* will be left in *Canada*. All this may be supposed too, upon the Surrender* of the Capital, in Consequence rather of the Conduct and Bravery of the Forces than the Wisdom of Counsellors; for, notwithstanding *all is well that ends well*, a long and hazardous March might have been spared had it not been *profitable*.

The Utility of a Garrison at *Louisburgh* might be too obvious to admit of a Doubt, were it considered as a Turnpike at the Mouth of the River *St. Laurence*; and, it being not much above 50 Leagues over, that nothing can pass without leave of a Ship or two cruising there: besides, it lying not within Distance neither of the fine Harbour of *Halifax*, (which is above *half* as far from it as the very River itself may be wide) to demolish that Fortrefs would not answer the End it does to garrison it; and what that is will be *properly* made known in *due* time; as it will why the greater Object was not

* This was wrote before the taking of *Crown Point*]
&c.

attacked, since the lesser must have fallen, when the other surrender'd; which it probably would have done long since, had it been besieged, as the former was, and with the same good will, by Land and by Sea, which is half the Battle.

Bought Wit is said to be good; but, as it is sometimes paid dear for, that Judgement which arises from Foresight and directs us to the wisest Ends by the most frugal means, may be, in some cases perhaps, as good; not that it is to be looked for where no Representation of Knavery and Folly nor Disappointments, the Consequence of them, are a Cure for Belief; nor among those whose Happiness in the peaceable possession of *Canada* has no Alloy, except the dreadful Apprehensions of an immediate Invasion.

In time of Exultations upon such Conquests, let the real Advantages be seriously considered, and perhaps the Violence of the Mirth may abate. The Enemy loses two Trades in North *America*, viz. those of their Fish and their Furs. The first, among others, ceases in course of the War, as beforemention'd, for
want

want of Hands, and many Reasons which are self-evident; therefore ought not to be ascribed to any Conquest in particular. As for the latter, which is the only one of any great Value carried on betwixt *France* and *Canada*, if the Profits of it go to the Church, the Government may be the more indifferent about the Loss of that poor and expensive Settlement, from whence the kingdom of *France* reaps little Benefit; except what arises from a vain Prospect of laying Hands upon some of our Colonies. It is certainly natural for any hungry People, when settled in a wretched Country, difficult of Access, and in an unkind Climate, to have an Eye to one so near, as some of our Settlements in *America*, are to the *French*, which have many other advantages without these Inconveniences; so more especially might an Attack be expected from those of their warlike Genius, restless Temper, and unbounded Ambition; which would be mortified at their imaginary Loss of them, even though not dispossessed of *Canada*: But as the conquest of *Quebeck* only cuts off all Hopes of extending their *American* Dominions to
the

the *Eastern* Shore; so their real Loss will amount to little more than that of their Countryman in the Year 1720.

One who had his full Share of Vanity was lamenting his Loss of 20,000 *l.* in the *South* Sea. What! said a Person near him, were you ever worth 20,000 *l.*? To which he replied— if me did buy 2000 *l.* Stock, and that did rise 1000 *per cent*, me did lose 20,000, is it not so? No, said the other; nor did I ever think you worth 2000 *l.*—Oh! for what do you tink of mine Money?

It is not here meant to undervalue the Acquisition, but to set it in such a Point of Light, as it seems to be seen in by few. To extirpate an Enemy whose Machinations never cease to carry on their evil Designs, and to beat them out of a Trade which may be of some Value to this Country, would be of Advantage to itself as well as to its Colonies; but as they would not lose so much as we should get, the case of *Louisbourg* is reversed; for by the Conquest of that nothing is got, though (it being of use to them so long as they had *Quebeck*) they lost something; but

but how much, is as hard to find out as their Loss in the Conquest of *Canada*; especially if the same Politics still prevail as did not long since, That 'tis good to have an Enemy there to keep down the Growth of our own Colonies. And it may therefore be restored to the *French* hereafter; of which the leaving one Stone upon another, though there was no Garrison, would be an ill omen; whilst the Enemy will be disabled from carrying on the War by just so much as they will have less to defend; as *Land* and *Sea* happen not to blame one another, nor yet both so far agree as for each to blame the Minister; who understands whether his Majority will defend and supply him, in order to be supplied and defended. But as such noble Schemes as the present are really carried into Execution, deduct the Expence, and say how much the Nation is better'd by sprightly Projectors, than by those who, 'tis said, would give up a Point.

It is humbly presumed that the Profits of the *French* Trade, to *Canada*, will not be found to exceed what this Nation has paid
in

in Money, to foreign Countries some years, for Pot Ash imported; notwithstanding the Third great Armament sent by Sea; and as many Men kept in Arms, for three or four Years successively, before the Attempt was made, as the *French* can muster upon all that Continent; notwithstanding *such* Profits are attended with an Expence of Millions, and those from Pot Ash are to be procured for 7000 *l*; of which the Wretch, that would have established the Manufacture of it, was choused by *the* Lord knows who*; and who do know, that the Nation has paid above 100,000 a Year for that Commodity; which is as much as the Fur Trade in *Canada* is supposed to be worth?—the One at least is certain; though the Other, not so notorious, may possibly admit of a Dispute.

This is Speaking as a meer *Englishman*, and not as a Colonist, *East-Indian*, *German*, *Soldier*, *Merchant*, *Contractor*, *Broker*, *Jew* or *Stock-jobber*; from whom we learn to believe, as they are severally concerned or interested, that the Fate of the Nation depends

* See the Rise and Fall of Pot Ash, lately published.
upon

upon a Battle or Siege; the taking of a little *French* Fort is a Matter of great Importance; and the Loss of a Ship, or the falling of the Stocks, are said, with a very consequential Face, to be a serious Affair. And so it may be to him that tells it; as to some, who are concerned in a little Trade upon the *India* Ships, cry what a Loss it is to the Nation if one is taken! Though better for the Nation that Trade was never carried on as it is; as it might be, if some Troops were beat out of *Germany*; and employed to defend their own Country, against the chimerical Invasion, which had like to have awakened a *Quixote* from his Dream of Conquest.

BUT to speak as Mr. *Stephens* would do; if, with the natural Advantages which this Nation has over its Enemies, its Force was employed against them solely, we might carry on our Trade and continue the War for ever, by which we should be Gainers. The Profits of their Sugar and Indigo, which would entirely fall into our Hands with their Islands, would in Time go a great way towards de-

F f

fraying

fraying the Expence of such a War, as ought to be carried on and continued, against that Nation. But if the Point is only to settle the Limits of *North America*, the Town of *Halifax* and the Peace of *Hanover*; which last should have stood in the first Rank indeed; though it might have been involv'd in a *German* War, had *England* been at Peace with *France*, it is possible; and if the Tryal of Skill be to see whose Exchequer will hold out longest; be it observed, that the *French* have those Resources which were not quite so much incommoded, (as not being quite so Light) as ours in the Alley might be by a sorry Invasion; to which end it might be gladly attempted though to the Loss of both Men and Ships.

No; whatever may be given out, of their Navy and Number of Seamen, without a daring Enterprizer to conduct a formidable Expedition, or Spirit in their Counsels to advise, or Magnanimity in their Prince to command it; it is almost as probable that they should undertake to run down *Beachy-Head*,
as

as to engage in even such a silly Invasion as may be by them remembered.

IT has been remarked by Historians and Statesmen, that notwithstanding the Designs of *France* are great, that it has been her Policy to get a little at a Time, by which they alarm their Neighbours the less; tho' they seldom miss the Opportunity of taking some Advantage; as may be seen in her several Treaties within the last Century; and, with Regard to our own Country in particular, that infamous one of *Utrecht*, and very honourable one of *Aix la Chapelle*, are two memorable Instances; for, passing over the several Points given up at those Times both by *Britain* and others, the Addition of about thirty Millions, at the Conclusion of the last War, to a Debt of fifty contracted by a former, was a Step towards humbling the Pride of the *Islanders*; whom they may have no Reason to envy perhaps in another Age; though too strong for them to conquer in

F f 2 this,

this, when Matters are not ripe for the Attempt.

If we are engaged in such a War as may in Time help forward their Designs, he may see far who sees the End of it; and if *the beginning of Strife is as the letting out of Water*; he that sees a good End must have good Eyes. What Exploits can our Warriors atchieve? What our Plenipos obtain, from those who seldom come off Losers, in Compensation for 'tother thirty Millions, and so on?

Then must the Ass contentedly bear the Burthen of the complete Hundred, which would satisfy the Rider for the present, or go on loading till he sinks under it.

If a Peace should happen, and the Nation is left in the first mentioned Situation of the two, our Enemy will carry their Point of involving our Finances and clogging of our Trade, for Payment of Interest in Time of Peace; whilst their Trade shall be revived and pursued with Vigour too well known to ours; which will droop in Proportion, as in some Places it has formerly done; and he is not wise, tho' a cunning One, who does not
duly

duly consider it. All Things must have an End; and, notwithstanding the great Men of the last Age may have been mistaken in their Calculations, That the public Credit could not be extended beyond the hundreth Million, yet the Thread will break if too finely spun. And great as this little Island is in Trade, it has not the Resources which that vast Country has within Land, for Payment of Subsidies, to carry on a continental War; and send Men, at no small Expence, to do no great Good, but shew their Bravery, when they come there. Nor does this Country recover the Damage sustained by War as that has done; and whether from its own Debility, Misconduct of Magistrates, or Baseness of its own Natives, may be seen by taking a Survey of their extravagant way of Life; in squandering their Hire, received to give away the Produce of their own Labours, in Subsidies to Countries, which are never to make a Return. But however the Case has been, the present Dilemma is, whether to send the last Million after the rest in order to subdue that Foe, who may invade us with
a Wit-

a Witness before the next Century ; or whether to sit down contented, with having already been paving the Way towards it, by impoverishing the Land in which we live.

C H A P. III.

Corruption more dreadful than Invasion, Fire, or Sword.

POVERTY is certainly not the worst Circumstance that attends a Country whose Government is not firmly established ; and so long as a People maintain their Liberties resulting from a well framed Constitution, such an Unanimity might be hoped for, as, by means of the little of which they are possessed, any foreign Enemy would be repulsed ; but whether a People would unite so readily to repel a Monarch, not so absolute as to forget the Interest of his Country, when they lived under an arbitrary Parliament of many Kings, upon whom, when united, there is no Tie, may be more a Matter of Doubt, than whether a Parliament may ever become so arbitrary

trary; and therefore, in Order to determine the first, let the second only be considered, as a Cause that must produce a sad Effect; and who would not tremble more now at the Consequence of Corruption, than be intimidated by the Apprehensions of any Invasion?

It were to be wished indeed that the Constitution, which Mr. *Stephens* had so thoroughly at Heart, was no more in Danger from barefaced Corruption, than the Nation from its declared and inveterate, but not more fatal, Enemy of another sort. There is certainly only the Shadow of Liberty left in a Country, where the System of Government, once plain and easily comprehended, becomes an intricate Mystery; or if the Guardians of it in Grand Council, or the Majority of them, come pre-determined to raise what Money the Crown thinks fit; to make no Enquiry into the Distribution of it, and to indemnify those who misapply it; and much less when their Electors approve of all, right or wrong, without Regard to King or Country, to Virtue or Merit; or to any one Thing but the
Wages

Wages of Sin, for the Support of their Riot and Excess.

TO set up for a Prophet and foretell the Fate of Kingdoms, would be such Vanity, as might afford a Subject for Ridicule, if it be considered to what Incidents their Revolutions are owing; and how, with Unanimity, a brave and wise People will emerge; of which History furnishes us with many Instances. Among them is that of *South Carolina*; where, about forty Years ago, they very peaceably shipt off their Governor, and fairly got rid of the Lords Proprietors; as the *Georgians* would have afterwards done with the Trustees; if the General had not displayed the exquisite Skill of a great Statesman, in the Art of Division, by corrupting those poor People: And the Revolution in *Constantinople* about the same Time was no less wonderful, than the struggle of the *Corficans* since has been brave. But as such Things are not brought to pass by Unanimity in Luxury, nor by the delicate Effeminacy of the Corrupted in any Country;

so

so neither is such a Feat to be expected; where these predominate, over such an Unanimity, as that of the *Carolinians*, the Wisdom of the *Turks*, and the Bravery of the *Coriscans*. But a People, cajoled to laugh when they should weep, and to put forth Lights, when they should sit in Darknes and bewail the Deeds which are evil, may become Slaves; or their Country, like *Georgia* and *Halifax*, may be a Desolation.

The Ear is grated, at the Instant of writing, with the Noise of Bells ringing, Guns firing, and Fools shouting for Joy, at Victories which, like Daggers in the Heart, draw out the vital Blood; for, if Sums be given which otherwise durst not be asked, it may be judged to what End they are given; as it may, if the Price of every such Acclamation be a Million, that it forebodes Confusion, Death and Destruction. Compassion is not more moved for the Unthinking, than Indignation provoked at the Designing.

WHO then will step forth to save a Country from itself, and not from Ruin brought

on it either by *France*, or *Germany*; neither by the wicked Race that did reign, nor by the illustrious House that does reign? Though it may be ruined by the base Contrivances of its Natives; not by the Disaffected, so called, but by the Affected; which means either the Affectation of Patriotism, or our Approbation of the Patriot; especially if he perchance should be Minister; the Terms *affected* and *disaffected* no Ways relating to King or Country, or to the Interest or well being of either; but only to One who ought to be subordinate to them.

This Sort of Affectation had a Being in the Reign of *James I.* where there was Room for Amendment. In the Reign of his Son *Charles*, and after, it made a great Figure, and the *Sound* of it went out *through all the Earth*; till by refining, distinguishing, and reforming it was a little eclipsed at the Restoration; but shining forth again in the Reign of *James II.* it became thoroughly established in such a Revolution, as will not be forgotten for Generations yet to come; and

and our Affection for Power and Plunder is like for ever to remain, if it does not outlive the Country in which it took its Rise. It having prosper'd in the glorious Reign of King *William*, and, receiving no great Hurt in that of the Queen, it made a splendid Appearance again in the Reign of his late Majesty; when it was seen in its true Colours, after repealing Part of the Act of Settlement, and bringing in Septennial Parliaments, to which a standing Army, the Excise Bill, and Bribery afterwards added great Lustre. The Difference however there is betwixt the Affected and the Disaffected had never been so manifest as it was made by Sir *Robert*; at the Time when a Secretary of State adopted that System of Politics, which Lord *Carteret* had exploded; when a Chancellor of the Exchequer opposed that Place Bill, which Mr. *Sandys* had carried twenty Years in his Pocket; when the Lord *Bath* told the wise Men of the Cocoa Tree, that Mr. *Pulteney* did not mean what he had said; and when the *Tories* became as contemptible as the *Whigs* had made themselves detestable.

Since that Period of Time there has been another Set, or two, for whom the Multitude has waited to see if they were honest; as they seem to be doing again once more. But as they will go to Doctor R—k, in Spight of the Caution at the End of his Advertisement, *Cave et vale*; so will they follow a State Quack, if he but puffs himself. A Minister going such Lengths as the daring Knight would have shudder'd at the Thoughts of, would be a pretty good Testimony of his Honesty, it must be confessed; and therefore, if the saying be true that, *when the Old one is gone, there seldom comes a better*, they may pray for length of Days to him, whose Successor might at once give the finishing Blow to a Constitution, so wisely defended by those of the disaffected who put all in his Power, and expected—(as they said) but what? and what if he did not answer their Expectations?

Tory Wisdom cannot be too much admired, and particularly in the Case of a Man in Vogue, after he made his Peace with Mammon; and had forgot Triennials, Places, Pensions and
Bribes,

Bribes, as 'tis said, in his Pursuit of Great Designs, for demolishing of a haughty Foe, with the Help of proper Supplies. To this Man of Affectation this Herd was so well affected, from their Experience of his Steadiness, and from their high Opinion of his Sagacity, Frugality and Integrity, as to approve of his moderate Demands upon such an Emergency; and fully were they satisfied when they yielded to all that was asked, with the proper Caution—Well, we deny you nothing, but—remember—you are accountable.

Suppose the Projector of certain Castles to have expended the Sum proposed, and to return to acquaint his Dupe that, having enlarged his Plan, for about ten Times as much more, the Project would so exceed the first Proposal, in Grandeur as well as Profit, as both to fill his Coffers and excite the Admiration of every Beholder. Well, quoth the Ninny, you shall have what you ask, but I *expect* all to be compleat in the Manner you mention by the Year 1760. Yes Sir, yes, yes, replies the Builder. Suppose too that, after such Injunctions, the Cunning one discovers

discovers the Foundation to have been laid in the Air, and the Projector dies, runs away, or becomes Bankrupt; why, then the other has the Air to beat for his Recompence; which would avail him, just as much as shutting up, or hanging in the Air, the Body of a Castlebuilder.

It may be said perhaps that, in such a Case, People are to be pitied and not blamed for being imposed upon; but, if the Motives of Ambition, Vanity and Avarice are betrayed in the Dupe, it is otherwise; and if it be considered too, how great may have been the Expectations of Those so well affected, till they found themselves left in the Lurch; it is easy to conceive, that they have an Eye to that Power which may never happen, and Pity it should; as we have had some Specimens of their Integrity, of which a late Instance was flagrant.

Two Persons are Candidates for a Place of very great Trust in a Charity; One of whom has spent his Estate in our Cause, and so impaired his Health, in our Follies, that he is incapable of performing the Duties of the
Office;

Office ; but yet he shall have it preferable to the Other, who is every way qualified for it, but never served a Turn for us.

So far were they from being wrong for providing for Him, who had been so true to his Trust, that it was horridly ungrateful to make One, so reduced in his Circumstances, to wait so long as he did for an Uncertainty. But, as it was thought necessary to provide for him, why was it not done sooner, and by the Contribution of so many great Men? Why, because a Tester given away is gone, and so is the Interest of it for ever. Why did they not get him a *Sinecure* or Pension elsewhere? Because they understand the Art of *shifting from Friend to Friend*, and have no Acquaintance themselves, nor any Interest, but for their own Relations—Then why did they not make him Steward of some of their own Estates? Because he is as incapable of writing a Bond, Mortgage, Conveyance or other Deeds; or to transact the Business incident to the Office, into which he is chosen, as to set that to rights which went wrong for

for the twenty last Years of his aged Predecessor.

It is not intended in the least to cast a Slur on the Character of a very ingenious and very worthy Man, whose Case was similar to that of Mr. *Stephens*, as appears to have been his Behaviour; and, not doubting of his Endeavours to be as true to the Charity, as he has been to the Party, he is on the Contrary congratulated on this little Success. A poor Reward for all his Labours! A pitiful Return for his faithful Services!

THE true Intent of what has been said on this Head, is to shew the Wisdom and Integrity of Parties, and the Virtues of the Members of which they are constituted; whether they come under the Denomination of *affected* or *disaffected*: And it may be presumed, from so wise and judicious a Management of a Charity, that a Kingdom would be as ably and well governed, as the other is conducted, by those not unmindful of *self*; and, as it cannot be denied THAT PARTY IS A
CONTRIVANCE

CONTRIVANCE ONLY TO SERVE PRIVATE INTEREST, whether *Round head* or *Cavalier*, *Whig* or *Tory*, or Affected and Disaffected; which last Apellations will serve for either of the others; it is Time to have done with those who shew something more than bare Simplicity, and to descend to some other Particulars; though it is worth observing, that when one of them offers a Bribe, he hopes it will be preferred to that given by Men, who have more Regard to their own private Interest than to that of the Publick.

Having made it pretty plain, that there is no Fear of the Nation being undone by their Monarch, nor Hopes of its being saved by either of the Parties into which it is at any Time divided; so neither is there much Reason to expect the Latter, from our Betters, the ostentatious Great, who distinguish themselves by an expensive Way of Life, and Affectation of doing Good, with no great Fear or Aversion to Harm: Much less is it to be looked for where Ambition is a Virtue; where he that rises stoops so low, that indeed 'tis no Paradox to say, he falls

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that rises, nor where Nobles are ambitious of being Slaves.

Low is he indeed, who, as an Apology for breaking from you abruptly, says, "I am obliged to go to Court". Surely he cannot appear great even among the Little, whose Robes are a Livery; whose Star is a Badge, and Collar a Yoke of that Servitude, which must be endured to support our Vanities, wallow in Luxury, and squander away our Substance without Regard to Country or Countrymen, without Shame or Remorse; and often with so little Judgment, that a Thing needs only be expensive to please, whether for Use or Pleasure.

At the Opening of a Pleasure-garden once, where the Price for Walking was doubled, upon the Entrance of one of this Stamp, says he, well Mr. T—— I think you have judged well in raising the Price, you have done the Thing indeed. The other, who could put on a Face too, returns, very lowly, Bow for Bow and Grin for Grin; till unfortunately it was turned on the wrong Side of his Mouth, by an unpolished Country Esquire,

quire, that valued his Money and Trees, as he did his Acres ; and who, with a Plainness, called Aukwardness, was beginning to address the Man, grown great, in a different Stile : Says he, there being no late Improvements, the Entertainment is worse, the Beauty of the Place fading, and the Harmony of the Musick failing, by a visible Decay among the Pipes of the Songsters ; and was going to say, that as there was not an honest Alehouse-keeper and his Wife, or a Buck and Night-damsel the less for it, he saw no Reason for such an Advance ; had he not been cut short by the others giving him to understand, “ the Place is my own, and I’ll do what I please with it”. The Countryman could only reply, that it was ungenerous, because the Act of Parliament for limiting the Number of Gardens had put the Publick too much in his Power ; and then left him in Disgust, to find his own Mistake as well as his Lordship’s.

But a Tale is idle without a Moral ; if the Profusion of a Man of Rank was such that his Agents, often upon the Prole, think them-

selves blessed when they pick up a *l.* 500, for his Relief, one would scarce wonder if such a one should borrow two Shillings to pay at the Gate, and Sixpence to his Waterman; whilst another, of as good an Estate and better Way of Thinking, would save a Shilling towards the Portions of his Daughters, whom he could go with, for once in a Season, to any or every Place of Diversion.

If a great one could condescend to mix with a Parcel of clean People there, even without the Affability with which they sometimes vouchsafe to mingle with dirty ones, at an Election, his Estate would be involved only Eighteen Pence, and such Oeconomy is similar to that in larger Concerns, where half a Thousand is often to three Hundred, as half a Crown is to Eighteen Pence.

It cannot be agreeable for such Head-Pieces to mix with Trades-people, to some of whom they may be indebted; and who, without that Advantage, are as apt to top the Rich Man upon them, when out of their Shop, as to cheat them behind the Counter. But there is no mixing for the Great with such as nothing

thing but Money will satisfy, and there being often Danger in their Approach, they are best kept at a Distance; as a Lady said, that had been haunted by an evil Genius of this Sort; for, after having often condescended to to promise what she never thought of performing, Mr. Mercer, had the Assurance to say, that he could wait no longer; When, in Wrath, just after a Run of ill Luck at the Table, as her honourable Husband had upon the Heath, she asked for the Account, and order'd a Receipt to be wrote in full, for she would have no more to do with the troublesome Fellow; which being done, she laid hold of it, and told him to begone and get his Money where he could; but upon Mr. Mercer's telling his Case to one of *Clifford's Inn*, who happen'd to be intimate with a rich Relation of the Family, and he being in Business, was so ignoble as to pay the Money, to hide the Disgrace.

No wonder that a People, *so* great, shall envy those who partake of a Prince's generous Bounty, in liberally bestowing what comes out of his Subjects Pockets; or, that
being

being *so* free, they are *obliged* to go to Court ; whilst the Esquire, who knows the Value of a Shilling, which others are brought to know the Want of, lives at full Liberty, spends that Money among his Tenants, which he receives from them, for what Rent he takes not in Kind ; brings his Family to *London* only for their Instruction and Edification, and *can* go to Court to be entertained at the Sight of one cringing and fawning, in order to wriggle into a Closet from whence he had been shoved out ; and who, if in his Way should chance to be tript up in the Croud, hurts none but himself by the Fall.

As an Instance of Affectation of doing good ; both the Lady, who *so* paid off her Tradesman, and her Spouse were Contributors to public Charities where both had their Views, as much as the *Baker, Chandler, Surgeon, Butcher, Physician, or Nurse* that projected it ; for tho' they could not supply the Charity with Beer or Cheese, not being in Trade, she gratified her Vanity in Public when she paid to the Plate ; and he could pacify an importunate Creditor by giving him his Interest for

for a Contract : Whether People *ſo* charitable will deny themſelves Pleaſure to aſſiſt another ; or whether thoſe, who are thus expensive and *ſo* fond of doing Good, are more afraid than aſhamed of doing ill ; or whether People of this Caſt may not be ranked, with the affected Guardians of their Country, is left to be conſidered by the laborious, who are the Bulk of the People, and by theſe Eſquires of midling Fortunes, who, not ſo poor as ſome of great Eſtates, have been the Stay of the Nation.

It is ſaid of a ſtrange old faſhioned Fellow, one *Locke*, upon his repreſenting to the King, that, by reaſon of different Interests, it was very ſeldom a *proper Time*, he was told elſewhere, to carry into Execution any good Thing he had propoſed at the Board of Trade, and that he was therefore as weary of attending, as diſcouraged from making ſuch Attempts. Says the King, who was a *Dutchman*, you may be ſatiſfied with doing your Part, and receiving your Pay, which was intended as a Kindneſs ; for which the other was very thankful ; but reply'd, that he choſe to withdraw himſelf,
and

and live upon the little he had, rather than take the public Money for which he could do his Country no Service. This Man must either not have known the World, or have been disaffected; or, it may be both, as his Disaffection might proceed from that Want of Knowledge.

But this may be supposed likewise to have been the Case of a LORD of Trade, when he grew disaffected, and threw up; as he had so *well* and *truly* executed the Office of a Guardian or Trustee, or *Trusty*, for the Public, as to omit no Opportunity of doing a *good Thing* for which *Somebody* is the better, and as afterwards, his Affection returning, he *was obliged* to go to Court. He knew the World; and his Wisdom appeared in his Choice of Companions and Counsellors.

AS the Constitution of a Country, which might be a little unhinged, would not, very likely, be restored, nor the public Credit, if it totter'd, be established, nor any Grievances redressed by those who are *obliged* to go
to

to Court, though well affected; nor by the Disaffected, who withdraw themselves; nor by the dissolute, tho' affected; so neither can it by a Patriot who will run no Hazard in the Cause of Virtue and Liberty; tho singled out by the unanimous Voice of his Countrymen, against the united one of a Court and Courtiers.

Though it was not a *proper Time* for Redress of the Grievances which He had complained of, yet People might be told, indeed, that All was for the Better; and that he would *do it* by little and little; but, if he thought any Time not proper for doing Right, and went farther than any before him in doing Wrong, it might be imagined that all was for the Worse; and that he would *do it all at once*.

If Things were not rightly conducted as he had been told by the concurrent Voice, why did he not employ that uncommon Power, with which he came in, in reforming what was amiss? If others were bad, why did he joyn with them? If they were wrong, why did he act with them? If they were

right, why did he rail at them? Is it not as easy to conceive that this Island and the Continent are contiguous, as that such a Conduct is consistent?

Opportunities do not happen every Day; and, as it must occur to every Man, that as often as they do they ought to be laid hold of; it, therefore, may be concluded, that whoever does not snatch one of this Sort does not mean what he said, or that his Courage failed him if it was summon'd: And a patriot Minister may not be so fond of Perils in delivering his Country from an arbitrary P——t, as was the Prince of *Orange*, of delivering this Kingdom from an absolute Monarch; as the same Reason may be cogent for one to avoid, and the other to encounter Danger.

Such a Minister might ably defend his Country from a foreign Enemy; as, in doing of which, his Countrymen would all concur at this Time; but, if he was to yield to the domestic Foe, Corruption, and amuse a P——t met to applaud his Expeditions, and to grant Money without Measure, he would deceive

deceive those who introduced him into a Closet; and, it might be said, the Truth was not in him.

Lord *Clarendon*, a Servant to the Crown, was true to his Country; and, though banished, yet he betrayed not his King. He that gives up all to the Crown may be loyal to his Prince, but is a Traitor to his Country; and more especially is he so, if they make Choice of him for other Purposes; for he that omits an Opportunity of serving his Country, is but one Remove from him that betrays it; and more particularly so, if 'tis evident that he is to run no Risque of any kind himself; the Business of the First being to *get* what he has *no Right to*, and of the Other to *save* what may be *unrighteously gotten*.

Bold *Robert* undertook for the Crown, *nolens volens*, against the Sense of a whole Nation, and was true to his Trust; though hated by an Idol of the People, who betray'd them.

If that great Master of Bribery had had no Ambition in him, he would neither have thrust his brazen Face into a Closet, nor

have offended the Disaffected, by outstripping of them, nor have employed as many Millions to keep his Station, as he did in foreign Subsidies. If *he* could have aggrandized himself without Bribery, *he* would not have been corrupt, as all are who depart from the Truth whether for Pension or Place.

BUT still, such may be the Infatuation of a People as to be fond of Error and to take no Warning; as those are who are as soon elated, upon any good News, so called, as easily diverted with the Colour of a Militia Lapelle, or at the Sight of the little Drummers; and more especially, if a Victory unexpectedly gained, by the Interposition of Providence, shall be ascribed to the Wisdom of the Demi-god; or if, on the contrary, the Compliment be paid to Heaven. In a late Prayer, that neither might be disobligened, the Merit seems to be divided. We are either in the Garret or Cellar, mad with the Joy or scared with Fear; or it might be seen from the Middle of the House, that Battles gained

gained in Defence of a Country, at the Expence of 30 Millions, would not be much more advantageous than the Ransom of it, at Ten *; especially if there was no Prospect of it's Revenues refunding to a sinking Fund. But yet, notwithstanding all this, he that broached such Doctrine might appear in a villainous Light, in the Eyes of some, were such Success to happen, as to establish the Reputation of a Minister; who then might raise any Supplies, for which he must otherwise

* This is only said upon a Supposition, that *H—r* has not been attacked merely with a View to help the House of Austria, to crush the King of Prussia; otherwise, it is obvious, that the Germanic Body would not allow the French to keep Possession of it; or if they did, England would do France Mischief enough to force her to restore it at the Conclusion of a Peace, and to make good all Damages too; if a third Part of the Money its Defence now costs, was to be employed as common Sense directs; and if this had been observed from the Beginning, it might have been effected by this Time in America alone; which cannot admit of a Dispute, while, boasting of great Acquisitions, of small Loss to the Enemy, and less Gain to the Conquerors, People were afraid, that a French Squadron might sweep the Sugar Colonies before them. If the Nation is bound in Honour to support *H—r* and the Castle-builder, who undertook it, meant well, it will be found at the End of the War, whoever lives to see it, that at least he judged ill.

wife truckle and bribe, wheedle and promise again.

It might be thought criminal, were any one to question the consummate Wisdom of Superiors; as a Man dares not plead his own Cause for fear of being impertinent, of which the Court are the Judges; but yet it is the Birthright of an Englishman to deliver his Sentiments; therefore, in Order to come to a Conclusion, let the Situation of the Affairs of a Kingdom be seriously considered, which was in Debt eight Times the Value of its current Specie; whose Financeers, for many Years, had thought little of paying more than the Interest; that at Length a Sum, equal to the whole current Coin, was raised yearly for the public Service; and that a fourth Part of that Sum was to be expended in a War, from which the People were too fond of expecting great Benefit to be told, it would occasion great Loss.

Let it be considered too, that the Continuance of such a War, at an Expence not to be borne, or putting an End to it with Shame and Reproach, might terminate in
Squables

Squables of Parties and Factions, among those who blame one another, till the fore Gangrenes and eats into the Vitals : And as, after intestine Commotions, the Constitution of a Person expiring may well be said to be spoilt; so it may of the Body politic; notwithstanding the excellent Remedy prescribed by a state Quack ; who, like the French comic Writer's Physician, might boast of the Efficacy of his Medicines administered, and how well they had operated ; though, like him too, being asked what Hopes of the Patient, he may answer—Oh ! He died at Four o'Clock this Morning.

TIME and Chance happen to all ; and, as such a Kingdom may be delivered from threatening Dangers, it is therefore to be hoped, that Mr. *Stephens's* Prophecy will never be fulfilled ; though but faintly, if it be considered who is to do it. Who is to deliver a Nation from the Danger of an arbitrary Populace ; as well known, as it is often repeated, to be more dreadful in its Consequences,

quences, than an absolute Monarch? Whether it is to be done by those who equally fear an Invasion or Militia; or whether by an affected Patriot, who opposes Measures in which he has no Hand, when *he shoots his Arrows, even bitter Words*; by him who can adopt a System which he has exploded, and call him an Angel that was a Dæmon; who can applaud what he had condemned, and adore his Memory whom he hated; who can change his Note, and still harangue; who can propose *out*, what is not accomplished *in*; and who can rhodomantade, though nothing done; will it not be said of such a Hero, as Mr. *Addison* makes Cato do of Cæsar;

Curse on his Virtues! They've undone his Country;

if, too late, the Duke is found to be the better Man?—He, like Mr. *Stephens*, has steadily adhered to one, though a different, Principle; and therefore, it may be justly said of him, as Mr. *Stephens* did of Sir *Robert Walpole*, when he heard in what Manner he had knocked together the patriot
Heads

Heads in those Days ; “ He is a greater Man than any of them.”

An Archbishop of *Canterbury*, in former Times, who was the Son of a very honest country Gentleman was much given to carry two Faces under one Hat, of which the Father could never break him ; though he would often say to him, when a young Man, —Prithee *Will* be honest—but *Will* lived to be despised, as *will* every one who *will* turn his Coat, though he keeps his Countenance.

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THE

THE
VISION

OF A
CHILD,

Left in a Wood to be fed by the Ravens.

THE

VISION

OF A

CHILD

Left in a Wood to be fed by the Ravens.

T O

THREE GREAT MEN.

May it please your Honours,

THE slow Change in the System of a Government, with which you seem to be but little acquainted, having happily rendered it, at last, too mysterious to be understood, even by the most Knowing ; it often brings to my Mind an old Coffee-house Politician, who has been, for twenty Years together, foretelling Events which never happened ; and therefore, finding himself as wise as ever, now, since the sudden Change in the political System of *Europe*, which has involved so many Countries in a bloody War, he pronounces upon every Occasion (with a Pshaw !) *It is All a Farce* ; though deep is the Tragedy, which he pays dear to be entertained

262 DEDICATION.

tertain'd with. There being Reason, therefore to believe that this honest Gentleman's Life has been a Dream, so was Mr. *Stephens's* also, if Somebody's esse has not been a L—.

There are some Instances, either in sacred or prophane History, of Visions foreboding the Overthrow of Kings, and the Destruction of Kingdoms; but not of many that ever appeared to Children, though sometimes to Women; which may make it the more likely that Mr. *Stephens* was a Dreamer, he being an old Woman, compared with Men of Genius, of Fancy, and Fire: and it may be hereditary in his Grandson; who, it cannot be denied, is able to dream of seeing a fine Country, though not, as some Folks in it, of destroying one.

If what follows should seem improbable; think of what has really happened within five Years as a Dream; if it should seem absurd, think of your own Conduct, and you may be the better reconciled to the Innocence of a Child, and to childish Things; for such those are which are void of Reason; and worse are those which are void of Truth.

Where-

DEDICATION. 263

Wherefore, as by *Babes and Sucklings* you have been praised, so the following is related with the Simplicity of a Child, and Veracity of a Gazette; and how much superior is the last to a Dream, is left to the Discovery of Time, and your Honours, who may live yet to dream, as you seem to be in a Wood, if not bewildered; to whom therefore this is humbly offered, by

Your Honours

Most obedient, and

Respectful humble Servant,

A CASTLE-BUILDER.

DEDICATION.

Wherefore, as by Babes and Jacking you
have been praised, to the following is related
with the simplicity of a Child, and I earnestly of
a Caster; and how much superior is the last
to a Dream, is left to the Discovery of Time,
and your Honours, who may live yet to
dream, as you seem to be in a Wood, if
not bewitched; to whom therefore this is
humbly offered, by

John Hume

Mrs. obedient, and

Respectful humble servant,

A Caster-Bewitcher.

T H E

CHILD'S VISION.

MY Mother dying within two Years after my Father, and leaving three Children, with nothing to eat, I once strolled so far from Home, picking Berries for my Food, that I was lost; and, almost deprived of my Senses in the Panic, *Indians* seemed every Moment to be coming towards me, with their frightful scalping Knives. Nor did the Stories which I had heard my Mother tell of their Barbarity, add a little to the Terror; for, whenever with Fatigue I laid me down to rest, no sooner did I slumber, than start at the imaginary Sight of them, who seemed to be ever before my Eyes, coming to kill me. And in the Dead of Night, the several melancholy Noises of Bears growling, Frogs croaking, Wolves howling, Owls hooting, and Alligators groaning, still increased the Horror.

Within a few Days after I was lost, several white Men appearing at Times, whose Compassion had led them to seek me, I always hid myself from them, fearing they were Savages: and some Rangers *, returning from an Expedition one Day, came out of a Thicket on a sudden, and one of them shooting a Deer that run across them, I fell with the Fright, thinking the same of them, and that he had fired at me; but as they were intent upon their Game, they regarded Nothing else; and I laid behind a Log, till, recovering my Senses, I heard them pass by at a Distance. Concluding that the Danger was over, I no sooner peeped from behind my Covert, than I saw one, who had staid behind, with his Face tanned and dirty, by lying out in the Weather; which, with the bloody Deer-skin hanging over his Shoulder, struck me with fresh Amazement; and then assuring myself they were *Indians*, I flunk down again, and lay as close to my Tree as the Bark of it.

This

* Soldiers employed by the Government as Scouts.

This had such an Effect upon me, that I was afraid to go from one Bush or Tree to another, till I ventured my Life in Pursuit of Water to quench my raging Thirst ; which I did under such dismal Apprehensions, that I shook, as with an Ague, at every Thing that stirred ; and, at the cracking of an old rotten Limb falling from a Tree, I trembled like the Aspen Leaf. But in my wandering I came to a River, of which I drank my Fill ; and, it being excessively hot, fate myself down under a shady Oak, upon the Bank Side, reflecting upon my Condition, and Dread of being killed, when I was not afraid to die ; and whether it was not better to be scalped by *Barbarians*, who hate the White People only because they use them ill, than be starved by Christians, who defraud each other as much as they do the *Indians*.

Being somewhat more composed after my refreshing Draught, at the Approach of Night again, I got some Moss, and made a Bed to rest my wearied Limbs ; but still, oppressed with Fear, could neither sleep nor slumber ; at which Time I bethought my-

self, that young People might die, and knew that old People must die, and therefore the sooner Death visited me, the sooner I should be delivered from a Life of Misery. Then I resolved (as my Grandfather had taught me, and, as our Saviour himself sublimely and with great Solemnity says) to *fear not them who kill the Body, and are not able to kill the Soul: but rather to fear Him who is able to destroy both Body and Soul in Hell*; and was undisturbed with the Fear of *Indians, Savages, or Barbarians.*

In deep Contemplation of my great Creator, and his unsearchable Wisdom in the Formation of this World, I could fancy myself in another; with the agreeable Prospect of a purling Stream, the gentle Sound of a hollow Wind murmuring through the Trees, and the bright Moon with innumerable Stars, which adorned the serene Sky, and made the awful Scene compleat; nor did my Imagination cease to rove from World to World, uninterrupted, till my Body was chilled, and my Spirits damped; when my Mind soared no longer above the wretched

Part

Part of this earthly Globe. Wandering then from one Nation to another till, Thought succeeding Thought, I fancied myself in the Country from whence my Grandfather came; and having a View, as it were, of the Multitude of People of Figure, and Number of stately Buildings there, my Ideas of its Power and Grandeur were heightened to a Desire of seeing it; until the Vices in Fashion among them occurred, which he had often enumerated, as Forerunners of its Destruction; when he observed too, that the Divine Vengeance is sometimes visible, in the Permission of one King to make War with another, and to lay waste his Kingdom.

At length, methought, I entered a great City, of which People talked with Admiration; and was surpris'd to see with what Expedition several single Persons were riding, some into the Town and some out; who, I was told, were Expresses that brought and carried News, and were therefore Men of Consequence.

Being advanced but little further, I observed the People to be in a general Consternation;

nation; when a good well-looking Man, standing at his Shop Door in a handsome fair Wig and Linen Apron, informed me, with a Shake of the Head, that another Express was come.

In my Passage through the Suburbs, People crouded more and more, and I could hear one say to another, with Confusion in their Faces, That THEY were expected upon the Coast at four in the Morning; and, it being agreed that they were therefore certainly landed by this Time, the Women and Children began to grow distracted; but in their Despair could utter Nothing, except Oh that Prufs! Oh that Pit!

After I had got within the City-walls, I thought I should have been squeezed to Death; especially when I came into a handsome wide Street, in which stood a fine Pile of Building; and over-against it was an *Alley*, from whence Thousands and Tens of Thousands had issued, bellowing and foaming Sounds inarticulate or confused, of which I could form no Manner of Idea; such as Revolution, Stocks, Bank, Trade, Dunk, Fund, Robert,

Robert, Script, Leg, Omnium, Pit, Land, Prufs, &c.

But Nothing was more astonishing, than to see them trampling upon one another, whilst they were gazing upon some Bits of Paper that were flying in the Air. Here, in this Croud, I had beheld a great Number of distressed Faces, drawn down to a miserable Length; and as, by their fallow Complexions, I concluded them not Christians; so I heard they were outlandish, and that their Food was chiefly Paper, of which the Citizens too were fond, and could dress it so as to be palatable; but, unless cooked by the others, with foreign Sauce, it was often found a little too hard of Digestion.

Having got through this Hurry, I was stunned with the Clamours and Outcries of People swarming from every Quarter; till my Heart was pierced with the Groans of a great Number of Women, among whom was a fine young Gentleman of princely Deportment and very devout. They were all listening with deep Attention to a heavenly Preacher; who, in discoursing upon these
Words,

Words, *He that turned the World upside down may come hither also*, said, as they had been forewarned, so now the Time was come.

But, in my Way to t^other End of the Town, I passed through several Societies of Litigants, who seemed not altogether so much ruffled; for, as they lived by the Quarrels of others, they were used to a Sort of perpetual War, in which they always came off Gainers, even in a lost Cause. They can fight, however, for either upon Occasion, or take a Fee on both Sides; and yet were not so unconcerned, but that it might be seen through the Disguise of their important Wigs.

The next Scene of Hurry that presented itself to my View, was that of a Throng of Coaches, driving with Fury from the Rendezvous of the Gay, at certain rural Entertainments, of which they were too fond to depart from them, till the last Moment of the Time; which was nearly approached, according to the Prediction of the Man of God, as before observed. Many of these,
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it seems, were equally fond of a beautiful Garden and heavenly Preacher, or indeed of hearing any one, or of seeing any Thing, that would divert them; their Time being murdered where there was no Company; among whom they might saunter, yawn, and make their Remarks, as they could do, with elegant Wit and surprizing Mirth. But it was a Rule with the Polite, never to mention Names at such a Time; nor to make Use of them upon other Occasions, except with great Caution; for to speak even well of another often gave Offence; and to do it in Print was always a Crime, without Leave first had; which was easily procured however, to serve a Turn, whether Good or Bad.

The last Thing, and what struck me most, in this City, was an old, irregular House; before which were waiting a great Number of gilded Equipages, and some of them indeed very fine. Pushing in there among the Croud, through several Rooms, I spied in my Way, a swinging great Wallet or Portmanteau, packing up; but when I came to

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the inner Room, where as many as it could hold were all standing, except one, who sat mounted above the rest. I was surprized at their Decorum, and quite charmed with their smiling Countenances. Their Kisses and Embraces being such Tokens of Unanimity, Love, and Sincerity, as spoke that harmonious Concord, which no earthly Power can prevail against. And, understanding that Directions for their Defence were issued here, I thought those were Fools whom an Enemy could frighten, even though they were landed; especially as profound Wisdom was manifestly seated upon the Brow of the Directors; insomuch that one was understood by another, from a Bow with an Air of Dignity; though he that made it, knew not what he meant himself. This engaging Behaviour was very entertaining; and their Nods, Whispers, Winks, and Shrugs, were really diverting; for it seems it was not their Custom to speak or act with that Plainness of the *Harrys* and *Edwards*, which was deemed uncouth; but either Sounds or Signs were generally sub-

substituted for Professions, as these were for Deeds.

After having been in the Room some time, a well looking elderly Gentleman with an open Countenance, came pushing forwards, as if he was running down all before him, in his Way to the Person sitting; and, when he came near, offered a Scrol, with these Words, SEMPER IDEM, which signified (as I was told) WORSE AND WORSE; but it gave no great Displeasure; as it carried an *Inuendo*, well understood by the Giver and Receiver,

The next that came was a tall thin Man with sagacious Look, to signify that he had *again* altered his Scheme, and producing a *new* Plan, it happened to turn out one for levelling Grass-plats and Gravel Walks, instead of levying Forces; and, in a little Confusion, putting his Hand in his Pocket again, he pulled out some Draughts of Statues, instead of Fortifications; and a Brick-layer's Estimate for building an extraordinary Wall, instead of one for the Ordinary of a Navy, or the Payment of an Army. He

departed not, however, without promising what He *would do*, if ever he turned Doctor; for he thought himself no less expert, at mending a *Constitution*, than at building a Castle.

One came then with a decent Garb of Black and White, and of a fatherly Countenance, expressing his Fears that the Church was in Danger, and offered the Tenth of a Year's Stipend in Support of it.

Next Somebody presented himself in a vast Wig, which covered at least half his Face; and, after he had adjusted each Side of it, I could hear him mutter something about his Doubt of their pulling down an old Hall, overturning of Benches, and abolishing Rules; and offered to give his Opinion without a Fee.

After him others began to press forwards, giving Assurances, that they would defend him, who was sitting (whom they seemed to adore), with their Lives and Fortunes; That for him they would sacrifice their Wives and Children; nay, and what was more than all the World besides, their dear
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selves. The Object of their Adoration was then most earnestly besought and advised to sit composed ; and with great Humility they all concurred in offering Thanks for his most gracious Goodness and prudential Care, which was shewn for their Chattels, then packing up, as had been done for their Goods before.

But, finding it was all a Farce ; that when they did speak out they did not mean what they said ; and that, to the Effluvia steeming, from Feet, Pox, and Issues, offensive enough before, the Addition of Breaths, from putrid Lungs and rotten Hearts, made an intolerable Stench ; I was glad to quit the lovely Scene.

FROM thence I passed through a pleasant Lawn, and came to the finest Bridge in the World ; which I went over, and thought myself well relieved, from a Sink of Wickedness, by the Innocence of the Country ; as well as refreshed there with a sweet Breeze, after being nearly poisoned with a pestiferous Air, of every noisome Smell compounded.

I now thought myself in a pleasant, fruitful Country, in which was a fine Garden, with the

the Statue of an *Æthiopian* called *Goree*, at one End, facing one of a copper Colour, called *Obia* at the other End. The Attitude of each was nearly the same; though the first had something of a sullen, and the other a melancholly Cast, as if they had been taken Captives. As the Imagery was admirably well executed, so was the Design of it wonderfully great; and as apt an Ornament to the Garden of a Christian, as a Scalp is to the Belt of an *Indian*.

In passing over several Hills, upon which Herds of Cattle and Flocks of Sheep were feeding; and in going through Vallies filled with Corn, I thought, among other human Vanities, of that of Kings, who covet more; though all is theirs, even *the Cattle upon a Thousand Hills*; as also the Ships upon a Lake, which I saw from a Cliff; whereon was sitting in a melancholly Posture, an ancient Lady, with a dejected Countenance, which spoke her inconsolable; as was her Daughter, whom I soon discovered at some small Distance from her,

BUT no sooner did she see me, than she thus accosted me; You are a Descendant of
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one of the Few, who were long my Support ; till, overpowered by *Numbers*, he was trampled on by the Rabble ; and the Rest deserting me in my old Age, you may perceive I am left disconsolate and forlorn.

The Country you are in, said she, is a little Island, which, under the Influence of my Family, has flourished for many Centuries ; and, so long as the Inhabitants fought with Fist alone, they could defend themselves against their Neighbours well enough ; but since they have learned to mimic them as well in the Games of *Sol*, as in other pernicious Modes and Fancies, they have dwindled as you shall hear, and, my Family being near extinct, their Name will be forgotten.

BEFORE I proceed, says the poor old Soul, with a Sigh, you must know I had two Daughters ; viz. *Religion*, who was beautiful, neat, and innocent ; and *Liberty*, who was pretty, gay, and sprightly. But the Natives, impatient of every kind of Restraint, are not over-fond of a decent Decorum ; and therefore, slighting the elder Sister, as an old fashioned

fashioned Piece of Formality, because she would not allow of their Familiarities, termed innocent Freedoms, they became enamoured with the younger.

A Match was however proposed, betwixt *Religion* and *Toleration*, the Son of one *Revolution*, who came from beyond-sea, and he would fain have had them joined together; for he made great offers; but she did not think them advantageous; nor, tho' the Lover seemed good-natured himself, did she like the Looks and Behaviour of some of his foreign Retinue, particularly *Mess. Synagogue, Tabernacle, and Mosque*; who appeared to be proud, knavish, and deceitful. *Liberty* likewise took a Disgust at him, because she had heard that he kept Company with *Licentiousness*, an affected Harlot, who had the Assurance to dress herself, and go abroad in her modest Garb, though she had several Bastards by him; particularly *Prodigality* and *Beggary*; who, betwixt them, to their own eternal Shame and the Disgrace of the whole Family, begat *Flattery* and *Slavery*; whose Breaths were so very nauseous, to you lately.

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The Natives, who are fond of Novelty, and not the most discerning, were soon taken with these Strangers; and, *Religion* having withdrawn herself from such Company into another Country, *Licentiousness* soon got the Ascendant over *Liberty*, whom she attempted to poison at last, to make room for that basest, among base-born Blockheads, *Slavery*; and would have laid it to the Charge of *Conformity*, a sincere Friend to both my poor Daughters.

This same *Licentiousness* was an artful insinuating Creature, who had always been exclaiming against *Conformity*, as an Enemy to *Liberty*; because she opposed the worshipping God *every one in his own Way*; and held it unlawful to *cut off my Head*, in Case my youngest Daughter should be mad enough to call for it. And farther, this Hagg would insist upon it, that my *Constitution* would be so miraculously improved, that I should thrive the better for *bleeding*, and live the longer for the Loss of my *Head*.

Absurd as it may seem, she was supported in this Doctrine by *Toleration*, and the whole

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Family

Family of *Revolution*; who allowed of no Power, but that assumed by *Blunder*, a boisterous, jolter-headed Kinsman of mine, who affected an Admiration for Liberty for sooth; though he was great with *Licentiousness*, and had been mangled betwixt *Sol* and *Venus*, till he was almost as corrupt as a rotten Carcass. Besides, he was of a Temper so impatient, that he grew as peevish as a Wasp at the slightest Offence. Contradiction by him was termed Contempt, and to differ in Opinion was a Contradiction. He would call his Finger a Limb, and knock down him that touched it. He must have his *own Way*, as he called it; though never knowing his own Mind, he was seldom long in one and the same. The heavy Strokes of *Sol* had hurt his Eyes; and yet he thought he could see as far as any Body. He affected a Taste for Building too, in which he was such a Bungler that he commonly pulled down what he had set up; and in short, so whimsical and capricious, that he was always doing and undoing; insomuch that it may be said of him, that he was ever and ever more
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in the Wrong. There was something grotesque in his Figure; for when *sitting*, as *represented*, he appeared to be all Face, with a very unmeaning Look. His Body, which was always large, began to be very corpulent, and his Limbs to swell; which the Doctor imputed to such a Relaxity, occasioned by repeated Blows with a Beam of Sol, that it portended Death, unless he took an airing in some northern Climate, which might brace his Nerves, and recover him; but this was thought a desperate Remedy, and that if it did not effect an immediate Cure, it would be the Death of him.

This Oddity had contracted an Intimacy with a Genius of another Sort, one *Thrasher*, who resided on the other Side of the Lake; whose History may seem no less surprising, than his Conduct is strange, of which I shall give you a Sketch. He is only the Third of the Family in a lineal Descent, but a wonderful Man, with a great Mixture of Virtue and Vice; in which Vanity and Ambition have so large a Share, that he does nothing, but with a political View. He no sooner

came to his little Estate, than not content with his Patrimony, he bethought himself of making Additions to it; and, after turning Enterpriser, as he was amusing himself among his Archieves, luckily, as he thought, happened to lay hold of an old dirty Paper; because he found it to be the very Deed, by which his father had claimed a Yard of Land of *Vixon*, a neighbouring Lady of an ancient Family. Besides this she had several Estates, particularly a Manor that bears her Name, who had been long possessed of it. Now several of the Neighbours being at Variance, he thought it a fit Opportunity to make an Agreement with *Sharper*, a Man of Opulence, and always at Enmity with her, in Order to eject her; and, getting Possession of it, the Tenants were thus generously delivered from an arbitrary Lady, by an absolute Lord, without Request, or the least Complaint made by them. She had a Number of Enemies at that Time, but none commiserated her Case so much as *Blunder*; who stood her fast Friend, and assisted her with Money to pay her Mercenaries, and
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fee her Lawyers. In short, he thought her at that Time an Angel, and *Thrasher* no Saint; could talk of nothing but her Distress and the Injustice of him, a hideous Monster, and dangerous Fellow!

But notwithstanding *Blunder* had engaged so deeply in her Quarrel, yet, all Parties being weary of the Strife, it was agreed among the Neighbours, that she should yield up that Morfel of Land; to which she was obliged (though against her Inclinations) to give her Assent. So that after an Expence of about Forty or Fifty Millions, *Blunder* was glad to get out of the Scrape she had brought him into; and doing so, she thought her Obligations to him void and of none Effect. And to be sure, if his Motive, for expending so much, was to be judged of by subsequent Proceedings, it appears to have been done rather for the Sake of a certain Tenement and Land, with Right of common, lying and being in the Manor of *Vixon*; which *Thrasher* might otherwise have laid his Paw upon. And we find afterwards, that those two joined against her from a Motive of the same

same Kind; which has given, to the Place, the Name of *Blunder's* Whim, tho' not his own.

A formal Renunciation of her Right however was made, and the Neighbours became Securities in a general Release which she gave; but it stuck in her proud Stomach, to be trick'd, as she called it, out of her Land; and, her Heart not going with her Hand and Seal, she resolved *Thrasher* should sooner, or later, feel the Effects of a Womans Thirst for Revenge.*

was There being an outward Shew of Friendship, though Nothing more, for a while; and he turned his Thoughts to the Oeconomy of his Household, which indeed was admirable; for, to keep due Order in his Family, he made several new Regulations, laying down a few, though prudential Rules for their Government; but delighting in manly Exercises, ever since the Squable he was in, which gave him a Relish for Handy-cuffs, though he had none before;

* Her Majesty not only resolved upon it, but openly declared she would seize the first Opportunity to recover the Land in Question; and never forgive the Method he took to get it.

fore; and being naturally fond of *Hunting*, he spent good Part of his Time in training of Blood Hounds, which exceeded his Neighbours in Number, and excelled in both Scent and Velocity. Alarmed at this, they became jealous of his ingrossing the Game; and, beginning to be under some Concern for their Fences, they were contriving to keep him within Bounds.

WHETHER their Fears were just or not, that he would over-run the Country, or that he only delighted in keeping a fine Pack as his Father had done; or that he was indeed conscious that his Female Acquaintance was meditating Mischief, will be seen in the Sequel; but she pretended to take the Alarm, which she carefully spread; and, like a Woman in the Height of her Indignation, hired *Sharper* to help to keep him off. This was thought pretty extraordinary; for besides that he was a litigious Fellow, who affected to arbitrate Disputes and give Laws among the Neighbours; like all those, too, who love to be meddling with other Peoples Affairs, he never did a good Turn without making
some

some Advantage by it; and moreover was particularly obnoxious to her Family, with whom he had always been at Variance. Nor would he engage without good Security for being well paid; but if she would make it worth his While, he would both hunt with her himself, and prevail with Dame *Rustic*, whose Ancestors had been famed for great Hunters, to send *Surly* to join them; and would undertake not only to beat back *Thrasher*, if he offered at any Thing rude, but to restore her Land, which *himself* had stood Security for to *him*; and further, in order to prevent future Mischiefs, to destroy his Pack; to which End she mortgaged to *Sharper* a fine Meadow, near her Neighbour *Sullen* of *Swamp*.

Thrasher foresaw the Storm that was gathering, and got on the Blind Side of *Blunder*; who was a Piece of a Sportsman, and become so childishly fond of the little Farm, which was now made a Sort of hunting Seat of, that the other engaged him in the Dispute, under Pretence that the Aim of the Confederates was to debauch and carry off his

therefore, borrowing his Neighbour *Trifle's* House and Garden for a Hunting Seat, which he modestly asked only for a Season, he entered it quite as soon as granted; but, the Owner being so complaisant as to leave him the use of his Furniture, he found a Paper in the Cupboard, that discovered an Intrigue carrying on betwixt him and the other three, to hunt him out of the Country. This being believed, as much as that in the Quarrel before, he had discovered an Intention which *Vixon* had to poison him, *Blunder* said he was a Fool if he did not turn the House and Gardens into a Dog-kennel; especially as it laid as convenient for feeding his Hounds, as for hunting with them: and so he did sure enough; for notwithstanding *Trifle* brought an Ejectment, he found that Possession was nine Points of the Law; and that the Produce of the Garden went towards feeding the Hounds. This was looked upon as a Sort of Trespass, but *Thrasher* justified himself so long as he could hold it, which he did for several Seasons.

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The Quarrel at last became so general, that the whole Neighbourhood was in a Flame. They were all up in Arms against him, from a Fear that he would serve some of them as he had done poor *Triffle*, for which they owed him a Grudge. But he went over Hedge and Ditch until he strolled away to a fine Seat that belonged to Lady *Vixon*; where, after getting into her Park and killing her Deer, he got to the Lodge; and would have fallen foul of the Keepers, but they ran out and gave him a good Drubbing; which was so far from humbling his Vanity and Ambition, that he still thought them a Match for her Pride and Revenge. And, their Animosities being increased to the highest Degree of Rancour, she resolved to have her Share and maintain her Right; therefore collected a fresh Pack, by the Diligence of one *Sly*, an old Huntsman, whom she had sent for from another Country; as knowing him to be pretty sure, though very slow.

He watched his Antagonist very closely, without engaging if he could possibly avoid

it; whilst the other would run his Head against Stone Walls, if they stood in his Way. Though now and then they met and jostled each other; and after exchanging a Blow or two, which they both felt in Turn, they always retired, as by Consent.

Thrasber however was the keenest Sportsman in the Country; for after a fore Bout once with this crafty old Fox, he sets Spurs to his Horse, and rides off as if Nothing had happened, to drive back *Surly*, who was sent by *Dame Rustic* to hunt upon his Ground; for he was always jealous, that if they got Possession, they would learn of him to keep it, at least as long as they were able; and meeting with them, he drove them back sure enough; but his Hounds having bit some of them in the Pursuit, *Surly* turned and gave him a little Trimming before they parted.

The Tenants upon the Manor of *Vixon*, had mustered a good Pack, yet for want of training, they were of little Use; and, there being several Owners who could not agree, they became in a Manner dispersed. But her own Pack, which was hunted by *Sly*,
was

was become Staunch ; and *Thrasher* having lost some of his old ones, the two Women agreed to join and hunt him down outright ; which Design he smelt out, and artfully laid by, to see if he could not catch *Rustic's* Man *Surly* upon the Road. Accordingly spying them at some Distance, he ordered a Whipper in to stop them ; but whether the Fellow was afraid of breaking his Neck, or had received a Blow from *Sol*, he looked like one stunned, and a fresh Hand was sent, who disputed the Road very manfully ; but, after many a hard Knock received and given, *Surly* went on, till he came within Reach of *Thrasher* himself, who laid about him until he was weary of thrashing indeed ; which the Others perceiving, and loth to be bit again, or else remembering the Bite they had got before, kept themselves together, and drove him and all his Poffee out of the Field. Lashed till sore he went home quite faint and weary, with half his Number ; for besides what were killed, maimed, and seized, a great many of his Hounds that had quitted the Field, and being of a motly Breed, ran quite

quite off. But this Feat of *Surly's* not being done without some Assistance from *Sly*, who helped to cudgel the other ; and so desperately did he fight, in order to save his own, and to pursue their Prey also, that the Honour of the Day, though not the Victory, seemed to belong to *Thrasher*.

ALL this while *Blunder*, who had been patched up again by his new Doctor, was engaged with *Sharper*, under Pretence of the little Indian Boy ; whom he could not rescue under three or four Rounds, with Strength enough to have felled two or three such slim-gutted Fellows to the Ground at a Blow, if he had any Dexterity with his Fist ; for unless he should be hit on an old Sore made by *Sol*, he was still able enough to cope with such an Antagonist ; who, though he loves to give the first Blow, which he does pretty smartly, yet cannot withstand the Strength of the Other ; nor could *Sharper* scarcely look him in the Face, but in his own Country, when *Blunder* was in his Prime.

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Upon hearing of the Defeat of his Friend, he was chagrined, and *the Bets* were two to one against *Thrasher*; but he sent him Word however that he would give him all the Assistance he could, provided he fought again; for such was the Brutality of *Blunder* in that Respect, that he would at it again himself, though he could not tell why; and so pleased was he with a Boxing Match, that he pawned whatever came to Hand, for the Sake of keeping it up, though he only took a Knock for Love, as he called it, which served him to talk of for a Week. He lived to repent it; for, reduced to low Circumstances, and his Health too being impair'd, the Doctor was sensible that he had a bad Subject to handle; and, in order to restore his *Constitution*, as he had *promised* him, advised his Patient to go and *insult Sharper* to his Face; for that besides giving him an Airing, the Fancy of it would be pleasing to his Friend *Thrasher*; but this did not hinder *Sharper* from laying the little hunting Seat in a worse Condition than the Other had done *Triffle's*.

Notwith-

Notwithstanding this, that strange Fellow was so infatuated that he did nothing without consulting his Physician, as he called the Doctor; who persuaded him to join with *Sturdy*, Tenant of *Vixon* though in his Pay, and to turn *Sharper* out Heels over Head; which *Blunder* the more readily complied with, from his Hatred of him for the Ill he had done, and for the Woman's Ingratitude.

THE Vicissitude of human Affairs are amazing, and perhaps not more so in any Instance, than of what I am now about to relate.

To give *Blunder* his Due, though he is uncouth and *foreright* *, according to his own Phrase, yet he is not the most unsteady in Friendship, if you give him his own Way; nor the most quarrellsome, if you let him alone, and sooth him with good Words; nor yet so implacable, but he'll heartily shake Hands with the Person that has thrashed

* A Country Term for precipitate.

ed him. But the poor Fellow is really so thick-skulled, that he is for ever imposed upon; his Credulity is without a Parallel, which makes him inconsistent with himself, and often ridiculous; for, having no Judgment of his own, he does not understand his true Interest, and becomes the Dupe of all his Neighbours in turn; by first treating of them, then wrestling, and, last of all, boxing with them; and, though in his own Way of Bruising, he is a Match for most of them, yet he commonly comes off by the Worst *himself*, by undertaking too much for others. He betrays his Weakness too, in nothing more than the violent Extremes, which he is carried to by an ungovernable Temper; his mistaken Friend is always an Idol, and with him his Enemy has seldom, if ever, any Virtues.

It has been said how he ran bellowing about the Streets in a former Quarrel, to alarm the Neighbours in Behalf of his Friend, then Goody *Vixon*, whose Virtues were ever at his Tongue's End; but since she became intimate with *Sbarper*, though it is

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whispered that he left her himself after a long Courtship, he has abused her for putting that Money in her Pocket, (as it is said by the Remitters) which he lent in her Distress; and bade her Defiance, though the *Bargain* of which he is become so fond, lies within her Manor. Then she *curs'd* and *bann'd*, and so they went on. And again he is so foolishly taken with his new Friend *Thrasher*, that the Muscles of his great broad Face are drawn up at the Sound of his Name; and laughs immoderately, if he happens but to hear of his foiling a Neighbour, as if the Feat was his own. He does not think his House well furnished without a Picture of him against every Wall; nor his Shoes fit to put on, unless first daubed with one of his blacking Balls; though he was, at one Time, as much in Love with a Commodity of her's. Once more, he has been extravagant in his Entertainments of *Thrasher*, to the Amazement of every Body; and all through the Doctor's Persuasion, as if squandering away his Estate would restore his Constitution; nay, as if this was not sufficient

cient to expose him, he advised him to go and do as he was ordered by this new Associate, after he had spurned at his Offers, and treated him with Contempt; for none despise him more, than the Person for whom he happens to have so great an Esteem.

BUT to return : *Sharper* had not been long in *Blunder's* new hunting Seat, before *Sturdy* made him take to his Heels; though the Varlet had first thrown the House out of the Window. And the Rogue too had the Impudence to send a Possee thither some Time afterwards, with *Vapor* and other Huntsmen, little superior to *Thrasher's* Dog-boys; though they were bouncing and capering, as if they would drive all before them; until *Sturdy*, hearing their Hounds begin to yelp, came up with them just at the outer Gate; and would have fain persuaded *Blunder's* Man *Trim* to ride close up to *Vapor* and hit him a Knock; but, what does the Whelp do? to shew you *Blunder's* Choice in Servants, the makes his *Horse* fast he

to a Tree, and stands to consider of it, whilst *Blunt* encounters him on *Foot*: It was a great Mercy that he was not rode over, for then *Vapor* being pretty nimble it seems, would have slipped into the Farm again, and have drove out *Sturdy* with his whole Crew. But, to the Astonishment of every Body, with gigantic Strength, he oversets *Sharper's* Huntsman, Horse and all, and whipt the Hounds till they ran off houlings, as if they would have left their Tails behind them. All the whole Family were so angry with *Trim*, that he was dismissed, and when he complained that it was hard to be turned out of his *Place*; Do you mutter Sirrah? quoth *Blunder*: You have not spared the Domestic, Subaltern, or Private Man, who is disobedient; though you think your having lived upon me hitherto, gives you a Right of Possession.

AFTER *Blunder* had thus spent his Estate to make himself ridiculous abroad, he began to make a Reformation at home; but
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it was too late ; for besides his being embarrassed in his Circumstances, which put him to the Rack to support his expensive Way of Life, his Health was impaired by his foreign Connections ; and the Scars, which are Marks of *Sol* that has destroyed his Constitution, he will carry about him to his dying Day, which seems to be not far off indeed ; for he is always Lethargic or Frantic ; and there is a Talk, that the Doctor says they are Symptoms of a Sort of Madness, which portends sudden Death.

News being brought of *Sharper's* being whipt about, and drove through the Water, and that the *Indian* was taken from him, *Blunder* could not conceal an excessive Joy ; till he heard it confirmed that his dear Friend *Thrasher*, as he called him, had been pummelled by the two Women ; when he roared out, By G—d all the Rest will not make amends for this : His Meals were tasteless, and his Nights restless, till at last he grew drowsy ; and then, starting in his Sleep, would cry out, What do you say, that *Religion* will return ? No, never I hope. I like

like her Sister; but that Strumpet has not shewn her fair Play, who wanted to poison her. Where is *Revolution* and all his Train? What, do they all desert me in my Adversity? I hate them every one, *Sullen* and all, with the very *Swamp* he lives in. Then he would hollow—They have fleeced me—Will they carry off all the Grist? I shall starve!

The Doctor has his Fee, and therefore the Patient is kept insensible of his Case, though the Other knows there are no Hopes of a Recovery, and believes he cannot hold out long. If he should linger a while, indeed, he will only find his Mistake as well in his Friend as Physician. *Thrasher* has had an Eye towards him before now, as may be remembered in the Fray when *Sharper* and he hunted in Company.

A young *Lad* pretending that he had a Sort of Right to the Power usurped, as one may call it, by *Blunder*; *Sharper* persuaded him to swim over, and promised to help him to the Recovery of it; but *Thrasher*, upon tumbling over some Genealogical Tables
thought

thought he had a Claim, not much more distant than that which he made upon *Vixon*, for the Good of her Tenants; and therefore upon hearing of what *Sharper* was doing, he gave him a strict Charge to drop that Project; and swore he would desert him, if he aimed at any Thing more than to frighten *Blunder*. In Consequence of this, the Boy was left to himself, who with a poor Parcel of Curs, Terriers and Harriers, put *Blunder* into such a Flurry, that he sent out several Hunters after him, some of whom were sorely beaten; and the Youngster coming forward, the three great Mills which grind the Paper Aliment, were at a Stand, and the Cooks who dressed it were idle; till he was overtaken in his Retreat, and so cruelly bit by some of *Blunder's* old Pack, that he ran and hid himself, and was never heard of afterwards. The Conqueror piqued himself not a little upon the Glory of this Day; having been put more to his Trumps than *Sharper* was when *insulted* by him. It may be therefore presumed, that this brave Fellow has neither Strength enough to engage
Thrasher,

Thrasher, who would turn his Force against him if successful; nor Art enough to evade his Stratagems, if defeated in his first and great Design of subduing All.

AND thus has it happened to my Sorrow; for *Thrasher* who has not his Equal, for Ingenuity to invent nor Resolution to execute, no sooner found himself overpowered by *Surly* and *Sly*, than he posted away to renew his Friendship with *Sharper*; who procured him a Respite, whilst those two agreed how Matters should be compromised. He would insure him his Patrimony, provided he hunted no more but by Consent; that he renounced all Right to *Vixon's* Yard of Land, and helped to put poor *Triffle* in peaceable Possession of his House and Garden. These Pills he was obliged to swallow, though they had like to have choaked him in the going down. And moreover, in Case *Surly* did not march off like a Fool as he was sent out, *Thrasher* was to join *Sharper* and *Vixon*, to drive him away by Force, as they had no farther

farther Occasion for him ; but this was readily agreed to, as it also was, that *Sharper* should keep *Vixon's* Meadow ; at which the two Women were so enraged, that no Termagant ever outscolded them ; Dame *Rustic* upbraided *Vixon* by the Name of Lady *Haughty*, and demanded her Due ; they still hated *Thrasher*, and both called *Sharper* a Rogue. *Vixon* applied to *Sullen*, whom *Sharper* had blinded with *Sol* ; and would fain have made Friends with *Blunder* again, promising to curse his Landlord no longer ; but he thought it better to prepare for his End, than to go in Quest of new Adventures, and gave up the *Indian*.

This was called by *Sharper* and *Thrasher* settling a Peace ; which was religiously observed, till the latter grew uneasy under his Confinement ; when *Blunder's* Illness gave him an opening, he thought, for carrying his Project into Execution ; for, after he had empty'd his Pockets in making Presents to *Thrasher*, and hunting with *Sturdy*, he became the Make-game of the Neighbours ; and having overheated himself with his

Sporting, and drinking Bumpers to *Thrasher's* Health, and worn out his Constitution with Drams extracted from *Sol*, he fell into a raging Fever, that had like to have carried him off. He lay delirious for a long while, and it is thought he'll never perfectly recover the little Sense he had. In a mad Fit lately, he stormed and raved so, that no-body would come near him; he had like to have killed the Doctor; and, when alone, once he tore his Hair, beat his Head, said his Prayers and smote his Breast: Every one of which is a manifest Indication of Lunacy! In his Intervals he would gnash his Teeth and stare, as if his Conscience stung him, which the Doctor imputed to the Fumes of a Drunken Bout (for he always toasted *Thrasher* in a Brimmer), and ordered him a *Methodistical* Draught; which he no sooner swallowed, than his Malady increased; for he was ever talking of Love and Damnation, Hatred and everlasting Glory, Justification and Hell-Flames, or uttering some other unintelligible Jargon; unless whilst he was sitting upon the bare Ground, with his Head
betwixt

betwixt his Knees, groaning in an agonizing Fit of Despair.

The Doctor was conscious to himself now, that there were no Hopes of a Recovery; and, being afraid of going near him, ran away to acquaint *Thrasher* of the Condition he was in; and, in order to make good his Quarters, to beg his Assistance in securing of him from beating himself to Pieces in his mad Fits; but not till he had first made a Merit of the Pickle which he had left him in. The *Lad* is to him obnoxious, says he, upon Account of his harbouring *Religion*, and he hates the Family of *Sullen*, because they are always spunging upon him; but you may tame him perhaps, and if he knew you were his Kinsman, he would be much better pleased to see you, as a *new* Relation, and die in Peace. Besides, as he has not bequeathed his Estate, you may possibly come in for the Whole; but don't come through *Swamp*, for when he takes it in his Head to be cleanly, he shakes it, and says it is a very dirty Country. He is become more reconciled to *Sharper*, who will find Means to

introduce you, from a View of getting into *Swamp* himself; and I will manage Matters accordingly.

You may depend upon me, continues the Doctor, because I never fail where I am trusted; and have been as true to my Master, as a Treasurer to his Mistress; as forgetful of my Interest, as a Whig of his Party; and as sincere to my Country, as Tory to Tory. Well, says *Thrasher*, giving him a Look, as if he would frown him to the Centre, I shall consider of it

Upon which the Doctor walked off in the Dumps; and, returning to his Patient, whom he found a little more attentive than he had been, told him that he had discovered an Intrigue carrying on betwixt *Thrasher* and *Sharper*, to seize him, under a Pretence of taking a Hunt with him, and advised him therefore by no Means to admit of a Visit from either. Oh! says *Blunder*, I am as sore as a Bile, and as poor as a Church Mouse; my Hounds are all scattered, my Huntsmen have failed me, and I shall sport no more. Oh! I am hot as Fire,
weak

weak as Water, and dry as Dust.—This was poor Comfort to the Doctor, who wishing he had been true to *some*, lest he should be deserted by *all*, was in a sad Perplexity, running from *one* to *another* as if he had been distracted himself.

In the mean while *Thrasher*, not unmindful of what had been so lately imparted to him, judged it a proper Opportunity to carry his Project into Execution of supplanting *Blunder*; and the better to avail himself of the Doctor's Advice, though he detested the Adviser, had a Conference with *Sharper*, who proposed his going boldly alone; for that *Blunder* who now cared but little for either *Liberty* or *Licentiousness*, was fallen so low, that he had not a Friend Male or Female. Then, says he, as you have no more Regard for *Religion* than he has, you have only to undertake the Payment of all the Debts which *Blunder* has been Threescore Years contracting, and which You can accomplish at a Stroke; when I'll answer for it he will make you his Heir, and you may
be

be as absolute as he has been arbitrary. This being a further Hint, away goes *Thrasher*, thinking that he might go barefoot if he waited for the Shoes of a dead Man.

THE good Lady had scarce done speaking, before I perceived the old Gentleman descending the Cliff, with the Wallet upon his Back, which I had seen making up. He was accompanied by the well-favoured young Gentleman, whom I observed to be so devout; and attended only by that elderly one who offered the Scrol, being in deep Mourning and appearing to be very sorrowful. The Doctor, indeed, who, came with a Croud not far off, ran to offer his Assistance, and would have taken hold of the Wallet; but the old Gentleman turned short upon him, and gave him a Look as if he suspected him.

But *running back* to the Croud, whom I understood to be *Blunder* and his Retinue, he met with better Treatment; for thinking it best to die in Charity with all Men, he
forgave

forgave the Doctor and believed, that *all was for the better*; and he, knowing the fickle Creature to be as fond of Novelty as he was himself, prevailed with him to send an Invitation to his Friend *Thrasher*; who, he had Reason to expect, might otherwise come without it.

The old Gentleman was no sooner out of Sight, and this agreed upon, than a Person, with a stern Countenance, ascends the Cliff; at whose Appearance the Doctor trembled; but thinking it most prudent to make a Virtue of Necessity; and, being dressed spruce and gay, he put on the best Face he could, and addressed the Stranger in a fulsome Speech, recounting all his glorious Feats, the Leaps he had taken and Thrashings given. Which done, I thought the Multitude would have revived poor *Blunder*, with such Shouts and Acclamations of Joy, as almost rended the Skies.

That is the famous *Thrasher*, says the Lady to me, fetching a deep Sigh. You see a great many of those who so politely pledged All that was dear to them, for the Safety of the

the Person who went off with the Wallet. Don't you observe that when they come fawning upon him, he rumps them? Nay, says she, *Blunder* himself has exposed his Weakness in that Respect; which *Thrasher* so well knows, that you shall find he will pay him no great Regard.

He then turns round, and frowns upon pretty *Liberty*, who had sat, with her Head drooping, at a little Distance from her Mother. Presently he beckoned to the Gentleman in Mourning, who had joined the Croud, and asked who that handsome Man, with a lofty Air, was; the other answered, that he was brought up to Trade and Commerce, but afterwards made a Scribe for *Indian* Affairs; upon which he called him, and enquiring what was become of the Boy; says he, *Sharper* has him still; at which *Thrasher* smiled, and asked who the little Gentleman was that stood between the Doctor and *Blunder*? The Other told him that his Name was *Glyster*, and that he had been employed by the Doctor in *Blunder's* Illness. Upon which, he was interrogated what the
Doctor

Doctor had prescribed for *Blunder*, and said Bleeding, Exercise, and thin Diet.

Now *Glyster* began to think of what would become of himself; for though he did not prescribe for the Patient, yet he made up the Medicines, and fed him only with the Paper Diet, ill-dressed, till he grew as lean as a Rake. Here Mr. Apothecary laboured under a double Misfortune indeed; for the Doctor was no less extravagant in his Prescriptions than peremptory in his Orders; which *Glyster*, though penurious, knew he must comply with, or lose the Business; and therefore ran away to the Paper Cooks in the Alley, and employed them to dress whatever he agreed for with Three great Millers, who lived near them, and found *their* Advantage in the Toll. But great as these Monopolists were, there were *other* Engrossers who must come in for a Share of something more than their Due; and therefore would not supply the Quantum, unless they were now and then concerned in a hunting Party going upon some *Expedition*; in which *they* always came off Gainers, though the Game was not

R r

caught

caught that was hunted. To make amends for this, *Glyster*, who at *all* Times thought Saving a Virtue, over-reached them in a Bargain; by which *Blunder* got a Quarter per Cent. to mix with his Food, prepared out of what was left in the Bolter; after what had passed through was sent to feed *Blunder's* own Pack, as well as that hired of his Landlord at the *Whim*, and likewise part of *Thrasher's*; who took no farther Notice of *Glyster*, than of one who had done no more than he was bid; though he talked like himself.

The first that offered to approach *Thrasher*, on his own Accord, after he was mounted, was *Flattery*, whom he sent over the Cliff at one Kick; which being resented by *Blunder*, who began to be noisy, he was ordered to be fettered; and the Doctor to be hanged for his Double-dealing, and having imposed upon the Credulity of his Patient; which the *Indian Scribe* and *Glyster* not much caring to behold, they became invisible. Fair *Liberty* fainted, fell back, and expired, at the Sight of vile *Slavery*, who stood
Execu-

Executioner ; and the good old Lady, methought, with Death in her Countenance, gave a most hideous Shriek. But it being an *Indian*, who was exercising himself in the Practice of the War-whoop ; and repeating it as he drew near, he roused me, holding out his Hand, and crying *Ngbaacgh* ; which in his Language, means, all is well, or, I am your Friend.

Notwithstanding the Resolution which I had taken the Day before, my Courage forsook me, and I fell upon my knees, making Signs of Intreaties for Mercy ; which he no sooner perceived, than he put the Butt of his Gun into my Hand, and repeated the Term above-mentioned. He next plucked some Moss from a Tree, wiped the tears which trickled down my Face, and gave me a Piece of barbacued Venison to eat ; but found I had no Stomach, and was very weak ; and then offered to take me upon his Back, which I refused ; when, in a friendly Manner, he grasped my Hand, giving a nod with his Head ; and, after a Repetition as before, led me to his Tent or Cabin,

which was only a Covering with the Bark of a Tree, to serve him for a Time. No sooner were we arrived, than, observing my Feet to be tender with walking, and my skin to be blistered with the Sun, he stripped and bathed me with the Grease of a Bear, which he had lately shot, and laid me upon its skin, that had been dressed, to rest me; whilst his Squaah made some Broth, to refresh me, of a Piece of the Flesh they had hanging up.

After a Day or two, he found me recovered of my Fatigue, and took me to my Home; where he left me at the Door, without asking a Gratitude, or saying one Word; and without taking the least Sort of Leave, or seeming to expect *I should serve him a Turn* for what he had done; but marched off with a Deer at his Back, which he had killed in his Way; and sold the Carcase for a Looking-glass, as he did the Skin for some Paint and Beads; which, like other fine Gentlemen of Prey, he carried home to adorn his female Companion.

THIS

THIS being not a mere Story of *Robinson Crusoe*, but such as there are daily Instances of, from it may be learned what is not taught either by St. *Paul* or the Divine, mentioned in the Dedication of the History; viz. that these Infidels have more Sincerity and Generosity, or Benevolence, than a Sort of ungrateful *Believers*, called Tories; and consequently more good Sense and sound Policy than some Statesmen. It is therefore submitted to the Reader, whether so humane an *Indian* is not improperly term'd a Barbarian; or whether *such* a Barbarian, who is just in his Dealing, wise in his Councils, and swerveth not from the Truth, may not with Propriety be deemed superior to Mr. *Legge*, * Lord *Halifax* or even Mr. *Pitt*; tho' his BETTERS; as in Consequence of

* Not the late Baron, whose Conduct throughout Life manifested as high a Sense of Justice and Truth as that of an *Indian*; nor did his Benevolence fall short of the best, as his Letter testifies in Page 96; though his Attempt to spirit up Mr. *Stephens's* Friends and Relations to behave like *Indians*, had the Effect of Music upon the Deaf. And, a near Relation of his own, giving a Specimen of his early Genius in the Behaviour

of *their* Justice, Wisdom, and Integrity, the Children, whose Grandfire was forsaken by the Tories, are actually left, at the Expence of the Nation*, to starve in the Woods.

And now, this allegorical Amusement being brought to a Conclusion with so melancholy a Truth, may the Eyes of a People be opened so as to direct them not, like Mr. *Stephens*, to trust in false Brethren; nor, like him, to hope where there is no Room for Hope; lest, through their Blindness, the State of the Nation should be more tragical than the Condition in which he died, who gave his Mite to save them; and lest *their* Grandchildren should be left to starve in a Wood upon a desolate Island.

SOME wrong-headed Dabbler in Politics, may possibly shake his Noddle at the Perusal

Behaviour of a Nobleman, relating to a trifling Bargain with Dr. *Stephens*, (before the other served his Time to the Trade he put himself to,) the pretty Manner in which the Baron took Blame to himself, to excuse his Friend, is really charming. But, in Respect to the Memory of the Good, no more of the Great.

* See folio 198, and a late Pamphlet called the Rise and Fall of Pot-Ash.

rufal of this, and apply the four following Verses of Mr. *Pope* to the Writer:

Alas young man! your days can ne'er be long,
In flower of age you perish for a song!
Plums and Directors, *Shylock* and his Wife,
Will club their Testers, now, to take your
Life!

But such Compassion will be looked upon
with an Eye of Contempt; and therefore
he ventures to close this Supplement with the
inimitable Lines immediately following :

What? arm'd for Virtue when I point the pen,
Brand the bold front of shameless guilty men;
Dash the proud Gamester in his gilded Car;
Bare the mean Heart that lurks beneath the
Star;

Can there be wanting, to defend her cause,
Lights of the Church, or Guardians of the
Laws?

Could pension'd *Boileau* lash in honest strain
Flatt'ers and Bigots, ev'n in *Louis'* Reign?
Could Laureate *Dryden* Pimp and Fry'r
engage,

Yet neither *Charles* nor *James* be in a rage?
And

And I not strip the gilding off a Knave,
Unplac'd, unpension'd, no man's heir or
slave?

I will, or perish in the gen'rous cause :
Hear this and tremble! you who 'scape the
Laws.

Yes, while I live, no rich or noble Knave
Shall walk the World, in credit, to his
Grave.

TO VIRTUE ONLY, and HER FRIENDS,
A FRIEND,

The World beside may murmur or commend.

F I N I S.

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